



THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024

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KNOEBEL SCORES 1,000TH POINT
AS SHAWE ROUTS HAUSER **PAGE B1**



Bob Demaree
A simulation nursing lab is designed so as many as 40 students can gather to learn. Pictured towards the back of the room are Natalie Green, a member of the board of directors of the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, and Chamber Executive Director Alex Helton as she snaps a photo with her phone. With backs to the camera are (from left) Hanover College President Lake Lambert, Ivy Tech Madison Chancellor Amanda Harsin and Scott Watkins, Senior Vice President and Chief Integration and Performance Officer for Norton Healthcare.

Ivy Tech celebrates nursing and health sciences expansion

BY BOB DEMAREE

An expansion and renovation of the nursing and health sciences facilities at Ivy Tech Community College Madison was celebrated Tuesday with a ribbon cutting event that provided an opportunity for attendees to tour new labs featuring state-of-the-art simulation technology.

Former classroom space and an employee lounge have been converted into laboratories where students can simulate real life medical situations, addressing Ivy Tech’s ongoing commitment to meet the rising demand for healthcare professionals in Indiana and accommodate the growth of Ivy Tech Madison’s nursing program.

The space now has a medical assisting/phlebotomy lab, two nursing labs and a suite that simulates hospital patient rooms, creating a learning environment that closely mirrors real-world healthcare settings.

Ivy Tech Madison Chancellor Dr. Amanda Harsin said, “I’ve asked my team before, what Jefferson County would look like if Ivy Tech wasn’t here, and some of the things they said during those conversations surrounding healthcare and nursing is: Would people be able to get healthcare here without driving a distance? Would there be staffing for long-term care facilities? Where does



Bob Demaree
Orelia Drounette, Medicare Assisting Program Chair and Healthcare Specialist for Ivy Tech Community College Madison, works with a simulation dummy that can be programmed for real-life medical situations.

that we cannot continue to grow and be successful without facilities like this ... Wow, this is amazing,” he said.

In March 2023, Ivy Tech joined in a partnership with Hanover College called the 1+2+1 model that is providing Hanover College students with an opportunity to obtain an Associates of Science in Nursing at Ivy Tech Madison while working toward their Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Hanover.

SEE **IVY/PAGE A8**

Fire tax revenue shockingly low

\$102,600 divided among 14 departments

BY BOB DEMAREE

More than a year ago, Jefferson County Council approved a small increase in the Public Safety Local Income Tax with the plan that the fee would generate money to support the county’s fire departments’ struggle to fund themselves.

The Public Safety rate, which had been 0.35% last year, was increased this year to 0.38%, a 0.03% increase of which 5% of that rate would go to the fire departments, producing a total of \$102,600 that’s been divided among Jefferson County’s 14 fire departments.

Council member Dwayne May said at Tuesday’s County Council meeting he “was a little shocked by these numbers,” thinking that the Council’s action last year would bring in more money and citing a presentation in which “the numbers we were hearing hundreds of thousands for every% you bump it up” but that’s not what occurred this year.

“I think this sent shock waves through everyone that this is how it’s going be forever but that’s not the case,” said County Auditor Heather Huff, noting it’s just a start for what can be generated for fire departments in the future.

The allocations for the county fire departments were based on a study of fire runs and operation budgets for the eight county fire departments plus a flat amount given to each of the six city of Madison fire departments.

The amounts allocated to each of the county fire departments were: \$14,500 to Madison Township, \$13,300 to Rykers Ridge, \$12,400 to Deputy, \$11,600 to Hanover, \$10,800 to Dupont, \$10,000 to Canaan,

\$9,100 to Kent, and \$8,300 to Brooksbury/Milton Township. Each of the six city fire departments will receive \$2,100 for an overall city total of \$12,600.

Huff recommended slowly increasing the tax rate for the fire departments because “we are still not 100% knowing what the jail expenses will be, and what our EMS future is.” She also suggested doing “another study including all fire departments and their current budgets, and their current call logs.”

The \$45 million Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office and Criminal Justice Center began operations in January of this year and is nearing the end of its first year after moving from the Jefferson County Jail in downtown Madison.

Meanwhile, King’s Daughters’ Health has provided EMS service and the county now contributes to that cost. In 2023, the Commissioners approved a three-year contract with Norton KDH in which the county paid \$250,000 in 2023 and \$500,000 each in 2024 and 2025.

Council President Heather Foy, who works for Norton King’s Daughters’ Health, urged “caution over spending” since the county does not know what longer range EMS costs will be. She said she is “hopeful to avoid an EMS tax but ... so many counties have had to go that direction. It is a significant concern statewide, and something KDH subsidized for a very long time for this county.

“We are contributing now as a county but only roughly 50% of the cost of an essential service,” Foy added. “Knowing this county may potentially have to eventually allocate more funds for EMS services, which would come from these public safety dollars, is another factor that we need to consider in the future.”

SEE **TAX/PAGE A6**

CHARLIE’S BEAT

Ragtop Deluxe delivers a delightful show

As part of our continuing series of “Bands That Play Regularly in Madison,” this week we are profiling Ragtop Deluxe, a talented 4-piece rock cover band hailing from Columbus and Indianapolis. Originally founded in 2017, the band has only one original member from that era (Dan Fouts), but the reconfigured unit is maybe even better than the original.

“I feel like with our current



CHARLIE ROHLFS
CHARLIE’S BEAT

band members, we’ve really hit on something special here,” explains Dan Fouts, a Columbus native and bass player in the band. Andy Bierlein, lead vocalist from Indy, adds, “I call it lightning in a bottle! There’s something magical about this current group of guys.”

All the guys agree the current chemistry is mostly likely due to the addition of Tony Young, also from Columbus, on lead guitar. Dan continues, “Tony just kind

of stabilized things. Timing was a big part of it, him being available when we needed a guitarist.”

Tony, also known as Weasel among friends, concurs: “When I came in it just felt like things clicked. These guys needed me,” he added with a note of glee and a charming lack of modesty. The group is rounded out with drummer Jim Coleman who hails from Franklin, Indiana.

So what can you expect if you go to Rivertown Grill or The Central or Tailgators to catch a Ragtop Deluxe show? Well, I saw them a couple weekends ago on the tiny stage at Rivertown Grill,

and I was highly entertained! The choice of songs was familiar, but also a bit eclectic and fun. Lead singer Andy Bierlein is spot on vocally, and very engaged theatrically in the vibe of each song. All in all, they were a perfect band to be playing while you hang out with friends, guessing the next song and singing along.

“We are squarely in the classic rock genre,” explains Dan, “but not always right down the familiar middle. We do My Own Worst Enemy by Lit, Surrender by Cheap Trick, and Ace of Spades by Motorhead, just to

give you an idea.

“We absolutely love playing in Madison,” continues Dan. “First time we ever played we were at Rivertown on that tiny stage, and we thought Wow! What a crowd! They were so into our music and so appreciative. We don’t get anything like that almost anywhere else we play.

“In fact, sometimes we rent an Airbnb and make a whole weekend of it. Not only is Madison a really fun place to be a musician, but it’s a great weekend getaway. The shopping,

SEE **RAGTOP/PAGE A6**

Butler Park laundry room damaged by late-night fire

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Carroll County firefighters battled a structure fire in a laundry room at the recreation building at General Butler State Resort Park last Saturday night.

Carrollton Fire Chief Robert Hofmann said firefighters were paged at 10:35 p.m. Saturday for a fire in the recreation building located near the Conference Center at the state park.

The fire was reported by a park employee who spotted smoke coming from the building while driving away from the Conference Center. Hofmann said the building does not have a fire alarm system or a sprinkler system so firefighters were fortunate the blaze was spotted by the employee.

Sgt. James Dews of the Carrollton Police Department was the first responder to arrive at



A look at damage to the laundry room in the recreation center at General Butler State Resort Park after a structure fire late Saturday night.

the scene and radioed to dispatch that there was smoke inside the building and visible flames at the front corner of the structure.

According to Hofmann, fire-

fighters made their entry through the back side of the building and were able to make an interior attack on the fire and bring the blaze under control by 11 p.m.

He said everything that was smoldering was removed from the structure and all firefighters were back in service shortly after midnight.

Hofmann said the fire originated in the laundry room of the building, which contained “two large gas dryers ... and two large washers.”

Firefighters determined, during their investigation, that the fire appeared to have started due to an “electrical outlet” in the laundry room that “arced.”

However, Hofmann said the park’s insurance company will likely conduct its own investigation.

Hoffmann said there was a “report of animals inside the building” which turned out to be “a turtle, a lizard, and a snake that were in aquariums” in a separate part of the building from the fire. The animals were unharmed when removed by Park Manager Matthew Sabin and police.

“Right now, obviously, the park is looking at other means of how they’re going to wash the towels and the sheets and all that for the lodge and the cabins,” Hofmann said, noting the laundry room was damaged beyond use.

Carrollton Fire Department was assisted by Westside Fire Department, the Carrollton Police Department, Carroll County Sheriff’s Department, Carroll County Emergency Management Services and Carroll County Emergency Management Director Tony Crutcher.

CPD arrests 3 in alleged credit card scheme

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Carrollton Police have arrested three New York residents for an alleged scheme to manipulate a credit card reader at a local convenience store resulting in the theft of more than \$4,000 in cigarettes in November.

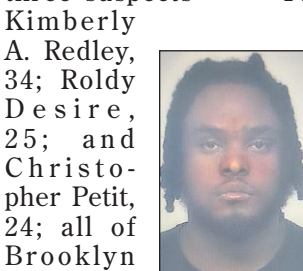
The scheme allegedly involved the use of a “credit card jamming device” that resulted in the card reader executing an offline transaction in which the purchase was recognized as neing paid

for even though the card was never areally charged.

The three suspects —



Kimberly A. Redley



Roldy Desire



Christopher Petit

Kimberly A. Redley, 34; Roldy Desire, 25; and Christopher Petit, 24; all of Brooklyn — were charged with Unlawful Access to a Computer-first degree and lodged in the Carroll County Regional Detention Center in Carrollton. They have all since then

be released on \$5,000 cash bond.

The investigation began when Carrollton Assistant Chief Keith Dew responded to a call at the Valero station, 1503 Highland Avenue in Carrollton,

On Tuesday, Nov. 26, Dews responded to the Valero once again after the same three suspects returned to the business and were allegedly attempting to use the same method to defraud the business. Dews, Sgt. James Dews and Det. Dave Roberts were able to review surveillance video and determine it was indeed the same suspects driving the same vehicle that had previously defrauded the business and the arrest was made.

on Thursday, Nov. 21, concerning three suspects allegedly utilizing a jamming application to manipulate the station’s credit card reader.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER

LODGINGS

December 9, 2024

Kenneth D. Jewell Jr., 61, Madison, to serve 4 days jail, concurrent, on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

Richard David Manning, 56, Madison, on a Jefferson County bench warrant (intimidation). Bond \$5,000 cash.

Jonathan Duane Owens Jr., 43, Madison, to hold for Clark County on a warrant (speeding, reckless driving, driving while suspended). Bond \$2,500 cash.

December 10, 2024

Terry Lee Morris Jr., 35, Madison, on a Jefferson County body attachment warrant and for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond \$12,145 cash.

Joshua Allen Smith Jr., 18, for Maintaining a Common Nuisance, a Level 6 felony; Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

December 11, 2024

Amy Jo Gordon, 47, Madison, on a Jefferson County bench warrant. Bond \$500 cash.

Candy Nicole Couch, 33, Hanover, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Released on own recognizance.

Emmylou Mikesell, 35, Madison, on a felony arrest warrant. Bond \$5,000 cash.

Larry Shannon Moeller, 47, Madison, on a bench warrant (non-support of dependent) and a warrant for probation violation. Bond a combined \$25,500 cash.

December 12, 2024

Christopher Robert Shaw, 43, Madison, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Driving While Suspended-Prior Suspension

Within 10 Years, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT

SENTENCINGS

December 9, 2024

Cesar Nopal De La Cruz, 26, Madison, for Public Intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 2 days jail, served, plus \$189 court costs.

Christopher L. Atkins, 34, Carrollton, Kentucky, for Theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to zero days jail plus \$189 court costs.

December 10, 2024

Laura Jane Moore, 62, Madison, to an amended charge of Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 4 felony. Sentenced to 5 years at Indiana Department of Correction, all suspended to supervised probation but consecutive to parole violation on prior drug conviction plus \$489 in fees and court costs.

Eric Allen Hendrix, 47, Deputy, Indiana, to an amended charge of Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon, a Level 4 felony. Sentenced to 6 years at Indiana Department of Correction with 4 years suspended to probation consecutive to Habitual Felony Offender Enhancement of 8 years at IDOC for a total of 14 years sentenced with 4 years suspended. Defendant given credit for 487 days jail served.

Jason Daniel Horton, 45, Madison, to an amended charge of Robbery, a Level 5 felony. Sentenced to 1,460 days at Indiana Department of Correction, fully executed, with credit for 858 days jail time served plus \$389 in fees and court costs with No Contact Order to remain in effect.

Andrew Gary Davidson, 37, Madison, for Driving While Suspended, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail with credit for 2 days jail served and 363 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs.

Steve A. Snell, 75, Madison, to an amended charge of Intimidation, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail, all suspended to supervised probation plus \$389 in fees and court costs with No Contact Order to be issued.

Savannah L. Mikesell, 34, Madison, to amended charges of Operating While Intoxicated-Controlled Substance and Neglect of Dependent, both Level 6 felonies. Sentenced to 545 days at Indiana Department of Correction for the OWI charge, all suspended, consecutive to 180 days jail on the neglect charge, all suspended except for 12 days, served. Defendant placed on 713 days supervised probation plus \$889.50 in fees and court costs, loss of driver’s license for 365 days and No Contact Order to remain in effect.

Mickle L. Logsdon, 40, Hanover, for Resisting Law Enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, fully executed, with credit for 154 days jail served, plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Cody Michael Reedy, 30, Hanover, for Criminal Trespass, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 14 days served and 166 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$389 in fees and court costs.

Chyanne Rose Holwager, 26, Madison, for False Informing, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 94 days jail, served plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Antonio Monteiz Broadnax Jr., 26, Springfield, Ohio, for Domestic Battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail with credit for 90 days serve and 275 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$439 in fees and court costs.

Patrick Ian Broyles, 24, Madison, to an amended charge of Criminal Trespass, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 72 days jail, served, plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Jason Thomas Sobeck, 25, Madison, to an amended charge of Operating While Intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 2 days jail served and 178 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$489.50 in fees and court costs and 180-day loss of license with Specialized Driving Privileges.

Jonathan William Hoffmire, 40, Madison, to an amended charge of Visiting a Common Nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 48 days jail, served plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:50 a.m.
Sunset: 5:22 p.m.
Temperature: High 34, Low 21, Mean 27.5, Deficit 11.6
Precipitation since last published: .49
Precipitation, December 2024: .65
Precipitation, 2024: 40.79
Barometer: 30.25, Rising
River Level at Clifty Creek: 422.97, Rising
Forecast: Saturday: Cloudy High 53/Low 45; Sunday: Rain High 55/Low 50; Monday: Rain High 58/Low 40; Tuesday: Showers High 46/Low 29.

LOTTERY

INDIANA
Hoosier Lotto: 3-7-8-24-38-46 (12/11). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$31.3 million. Next Drawing (12/14).
Cash Five: 6-23-27-36-40 (12/11)
Cash 4 Life: 6-14-20-21-57 CB: 2 (12/11)

LB: 1 (12/11)
MEGAMILLIONS: 12-14-26-48-52 MB: 21, MP 45 (12/10). Next Jackpot: \$670 million. Next Drawing (12/13)
POWERBALL: 13-44-50-52-54 PB: 20, PP 2 (12/11). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$45 million. Next Drawing (12/14)
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 18-23-34-60-62 PB: 19 (12/11). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (12/14)

KENTUCKY
Cash Ball: 9-13-23-29 CB 23 (12/11)
Lucky For Life: 10-19-32-44-46

BIRTHDAYS

Editor’s Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

DECEMBER 12
Laverne Gross
Barb Scroggs
Sandy Stilwell

DECEMBER 13
Bill Poindexter

DECEMBER 14
Charles Gaddie

DECEMBER 15
Margaret Scott

DECEMBER 17
Larry Duke
John Haskell

DECEMBER 18
Julie King Byrd-Jenkins

DECEMBER 19
Jak McCormick

DECEMBER 20
Matt Brawner

DECEMBER 22
Jeff Ayler

DECEMBER 24
Luanne McCammon

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9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue
Noon Monday for Thursday issue
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

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OBITUARIES

Larry Michael ‘Mike’ Morris

Larry Michael “Mike” Morris, age 54, of Madison, IN, and the son of Larry Lee and Janice Lane “Jan” (Bickers) Morris, was born July 9, 1970, in KY. Mr. Morris passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2024, at the Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville, KY.

His life will be cherished by sons: Bradley Morris and his wife, Markanda Baugh of Greenfield, IN, and Brent Morris and his wife, Leah of New Castle, IN; his grandchildren: Maverick and Charlotte Morris; his mother: Jan

Morris of Madison; his brother: Greg Morris and his wife, Tracy of Madison; his uncle: Tom Bickers of Madison; his aunt, Cathy Wood of Carrollton, KY; and his niece, Paige Morris of Louisville. He was preceded in death by his father, Larry Lee Morris who passed away on Sept. 28, 2020, and his brother, David Scott Morris.

Brother Darin Ayler will conduct memorial services at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, at Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation

Service, Vail Chapel, 117 Holt Drive, Madison. Friends and family may gather at the Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Vail Chapel from 4:30 p.m., until the time of the service on Monday.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites individuals to bring a fishing lure. The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Huntington’s Disease Society of America. Contributions may be made at the Lytle Welty Funeral Home, or at lytlewelty.com.

Robert ‘Bob’ Trimble

Robert “Bob” Trimble, was born in Carlisle, IN, on Jan. 10, 1930, the son of John William Trimble and Betsy Shake Trimble and the youngest brother to Margaret, Rush, and Ralph Trimble. Bob died on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2024, at 11:39 a.m., at River Terrace Health Campus in Madison, IN.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, brothers, and sister, and by his wife, Barbara, in 2015. He is survived by his

son, John (Ann) Trimble, and his daughter, Lisa (David) Actor, four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and many adoring nieces, and nephews.

The family will plan a memorial gathering at a later date.

For anyone wishing to honor Bob’s life with a contribution, the family suggests a gift to the Robert G. Trimble, PhD. Endowed Scholarship at Hanover College, Office

of Advancement Services, 517 Ball Dr, Hanover, IN, 47243, with the name of the fund in the memo line of the check, or <https://our.hanover.edu/ways-to-give/donate-select-other> and enter the scholarship name. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Doris Frances Oakes Roscoe

Doris Frances Oakes Roscoe, age 90, of Madison, IN, entered this life on June 10, 1934, in Terre Haute, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late Andrew J. and Maggie Oakes. Doris died on Monday, Dec. 9, 2024, at 3:16 a.m. at the Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Doris will be missed by her loving her daughter, Elizabeth “Beth” Lamb and her husband, Cecil of Lexington, IN; several nieces, nephews,

cousins, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Harold, Albert, Harry, Isaac, and James Oakes and her sisters, Elsie Southwood and Mrs. John Barron.

Memorial services will be conducted Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, at 3.30 p.m., by Nathan Shelton at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will be at a later date in the Springdale Cemetery,

600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Friday from 2 — 3:30 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to Doris Roscoe Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Michael Jerome Abrams Sr., 74, of Carrollton, KY, died Monday, Dec. 9, 2024, in Carrollton. Mass of Christian Burial will take place at noon on Friday, Dec. 13, at St. John Catholic Church in Carrollton with interment in the St. John Catholic Cemetery there. Military Honors will be presented by the U.S. Army and the Carrollton American Legion Post 41. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com.

Michael David Bayne Sr., 66, of Milton, KY, died Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, at his home in Trimble County, KY. Funeral service was Thursday, Dec. 12, at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN, with interment to follow at a later date in the Moffett Cemetery in Milton, www.morgan-nay.com.

Eunice Isabell Fisher, 84, of Owenton, KY, died

Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024, in Owenton. Graveside services were Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Carrollton, KY. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com.

Laura Jean Humes, 61, of Charlestown, IN and formerly of Madison, IN, died Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024, at her home in Charlestown. Memorial service is at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Vail Chapel, in Madison, www.lytlewelty.com.

Rhonda Suzanne “Susie” Humphries, 76, Carrollton, KY, died Monday, Dec. 9, 2024, in Carrollton. Services will be announced by the family at a later date. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, [ww.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com](http://www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com).

Jeannie Kathleen Bradley Pratt, 65, of Patriot, IN, died Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, at St. Elizabeth Dearborn Hospital in Lawrenceburg, IN. Interment will be in the Eastview Cemetery in Patriot. Services will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Constance “Connie” Lehr Finney Rhoten, 91, of Lexington, KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Emma Mae Beach Wright, 68, of Carrollton, KY, died Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024, at Carroll County Memorial Hospital in Carrollton. Memorial service was Tuesday, Dec. 10, at Graham-Dunn Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.grahamdunnfh.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS

Wreaths Across America
Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery
Saturday, Dec. 14, Noon
Special ceremony in which Balsam wreaths will be placed on graves at the Indiana Veterans Cemetery on Madison’s hilltop. Prior to that, veterans will be honored at Springdale Cemetery in downtown Madison and Grandview Memorial Gardens north of Madison.

Santa Claus at the Airport
Madison Municipal Airport
3919 W IMS Lane, Madison
Saturday, Dec. 14, 2-5 p.m.
Mingle and meet Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying

cookies and hot chocolate at the city’s airport on Madison’s hilltop.

Tuba Carols
Broadway Fountain
Saturday, Dec. 14, 4:30 p.m.
Low brass musicians from Jefferson County and surrounding counties perform Christmas songs during the Tuba Carols event at the Broadway Fountain.

Blue Christmas Service
North Madison United Methodist Church
2235 Allen Street, Madison
Sunday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m.
A service of comfort and hope to help those for whom Christmas is not joyous due to

loss, separation or memories.

MCHS Christmas Concert
Madison Consolidated High School
743 Clifty Drive, Madison
Thursday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m.
Madison Consolidated High School choir and band perform a Christmas concert at Opal Sherman Auditorium.

FUNDRAISER
Christmas Cookie Walk
North Madison United Methodist Church
2235 Allen Street, Madison
Saturday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Open to the public. \$5 suggested donation for each cookie plate.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON



Boib Demaree

Madison Community Concert Band performed its annual Christmas Concert Tuesday night at Clifty Inn, ringing in the sounds of the season with a selection of holiday music.



Bob Demaree

Madison Community Concert Band Director Bill Kindle motions for a soloist to take a bow during the band’s annual Christmas concert at Clifty Inn on Tuesday night.



Madison band member Matt Schermer, dressed in elf attire, addressed the audience during Tuesday’s performance of the Madison Community Concert Band at Clifty Inn.

Bob Demaree

Open House

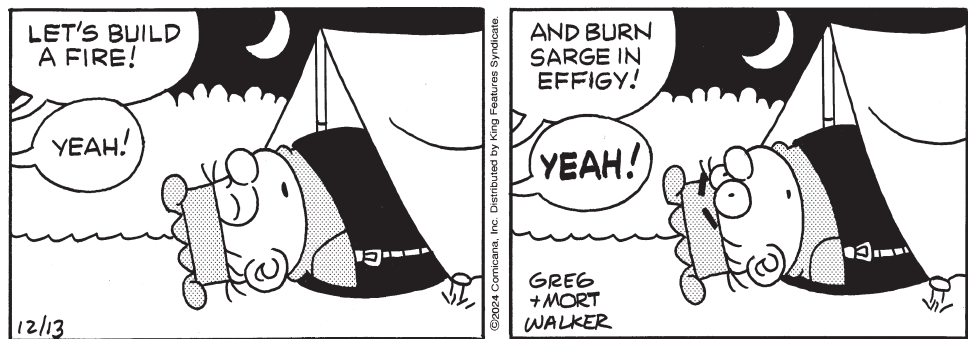
COME HAVE REFRESHMENTS, SIGN UP FOR OUR DOOR PRIZES AND PICK UP YOUR CALENDARS & OTHER CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAYS.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 15, 2023 FROM 8:00 AM–5:00 PM
IN MILTON, MADISON, LAGRANGE & CRESTWOOD.
SANTA CLAUS WILL BE IN OUR MADISON OFFICES FROM 8:00 AM–12 PM NOON, AND OUR MILTON OFFICES FROM 1:00 PM–5:00 PM.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 16, 2023
FROM 8:00AM–12:00PM NOON. SANTA WILL BE IN OUR CARROLLTON OFFICES THE ENTIRE OPEN HOUSE.

Farmers Bank of Milton

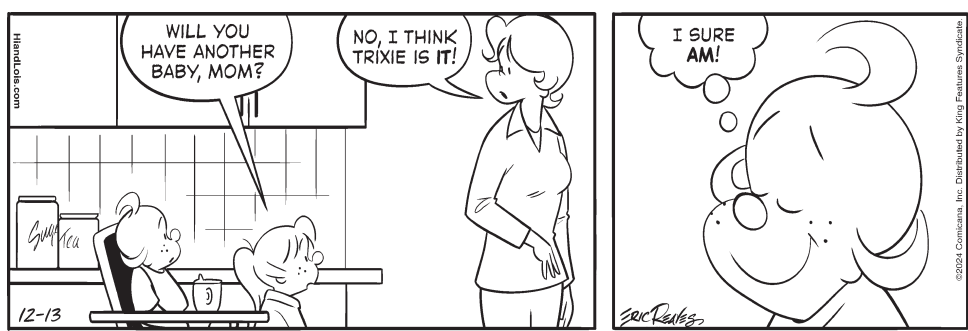
BEETLE BAILEY



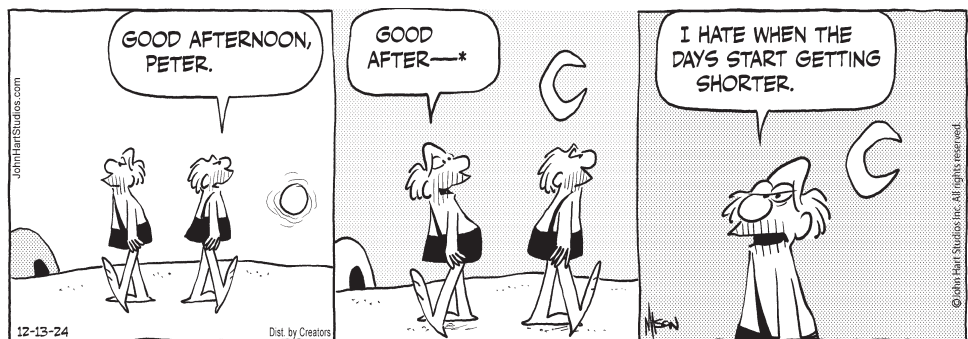
BLONDIE



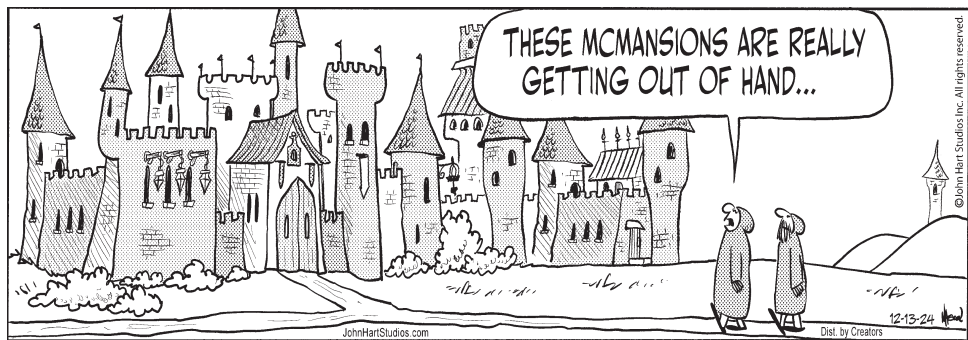
HI & LOIS



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WIZARD OF ID



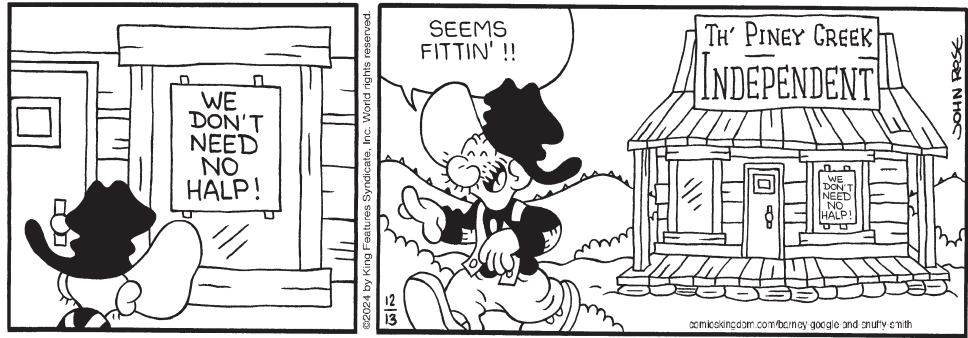
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GARFIELD



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



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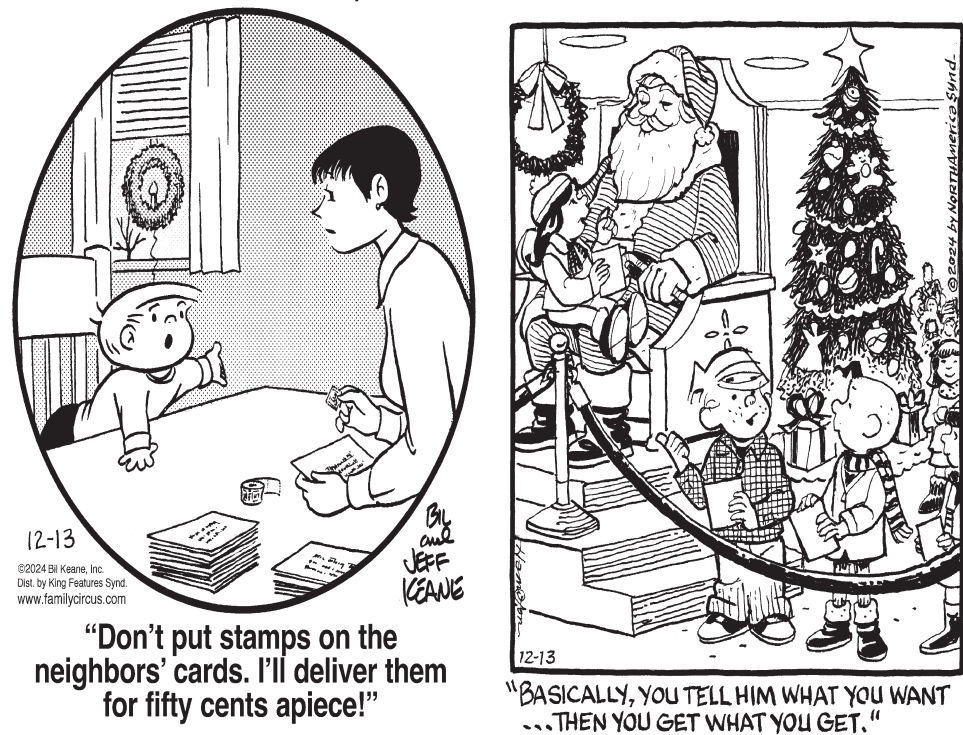


FAMILY CIRCUS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

DENNIS THE MENACE



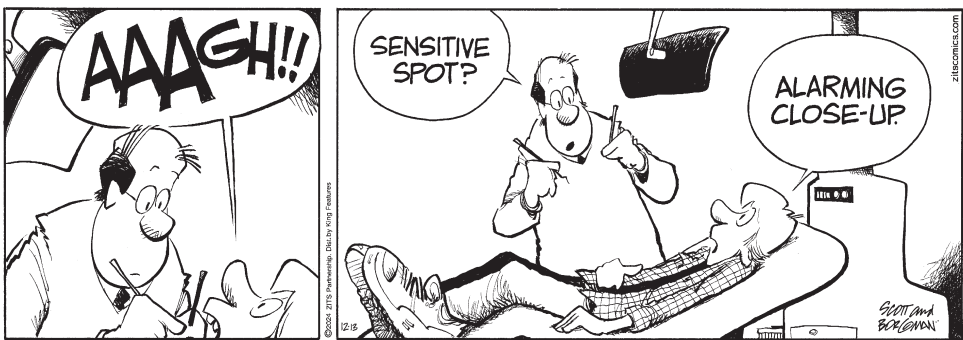
BABY BLUES



CURTIS



ZITS



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Dec. 13, the 348th day of 2024. There are 18 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Dec. 13, 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Adwar, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

Also on this date:

In 1862, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside launched futile attacks against entrenched Confederate soldiers during the Civil War Battle of Fredericksburg; the soundly defeated Northern troops withdrew two days later.

In 1937, during the Second Sino-Japanese War, Japanese soldiers massacred an estimated 200,000 to 300,000 citizens, war prisoners and soldiers in the Chinese city of Nanjing.

In 1996, the U.N. Security Council chose Kofi Annan of Ghana to become the world body's seventh secretary-general.

In 2000, Republican George W. Bush claimed the presidency a day after the U.S. Supreme Court shut down further recounts of disputed ballots in Florida; Democrat Al Gore conceded, delivering a call for national unity.

In 2001, the Pentagon publicly released a captured videotape of Osama bin Laden in which the al-Qaida leader said the deaths and destruction achieved by the Sept. 11 attacks exceeded his "most optimistic" expectations.

In 2007, Major League Baseball's Mitchell Report was released, identifying 85 names to differing degrees in connection with the alleged use of performance-enhancing drugs.

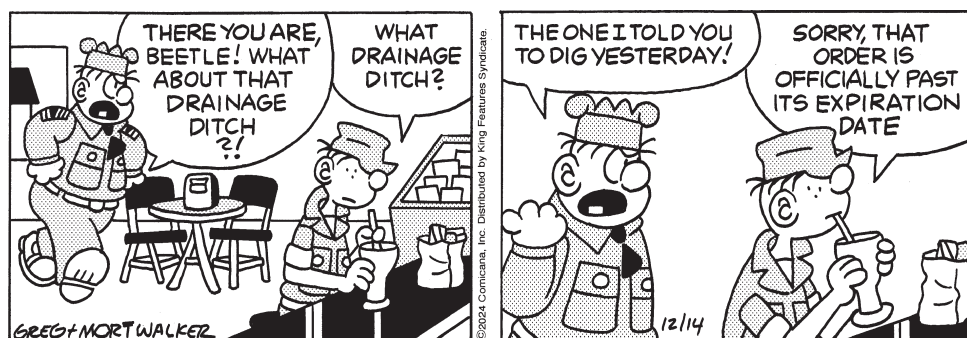
In 2014, thousands of protesters marched in New York, Washington and other U.S. cities to call attention to the killing of unarmed Black men by white police officers.

In 2019, the House Judiciary Committee approved two articles of impeachment accusing President Donald Trump of abuse of power in his dealings with Ukraine and obstruction of Congress in the investigation that followed.

In 2022, President Joe Biden signed the Respect for Marriage Act providing federal recognition and protection for same-sex and interracial marriages, saying "the law, and the love it defends, strike a blow against hate in all its forms."

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Dick Van Dyke is 99. Music/film producer Lou Adler is 91. Singer-TV host John Davidson is 83. Baseball Hall of Famer Ferguson Jenkins is 82. Rock musician Jeff "Skunk" Baxter is 76. Rock musician Ted Nugent is 76. Country singer-musician Randy Owen (Alabama) is 75. Actor Wendie Malick is 74. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack is 74. Former Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke is 71. Country musician John Anderson is 70. Actor Steve Buscemi is 67. Singer-actor Morris Day is 67. Football Hall of Famer Richard Dent is 64. Actor-comedian Jamie Foxx is 57. Actor-reality TV star NeNe Leakes is 57. Hockey Hall of Famer Sergei Fedorov is 55. Rock singer-musician Tom Delonge (Blink-182) is 49. Rock singer Amy Lee (Evanescence) is 43. Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift is 35. Actor Maisy Stella is 21.

BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



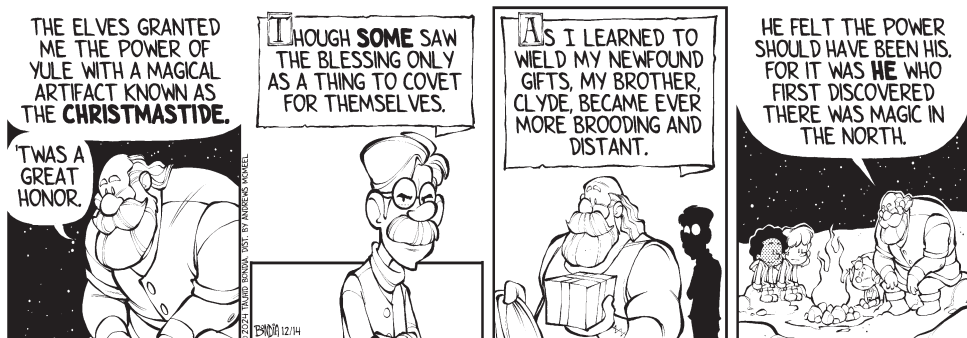
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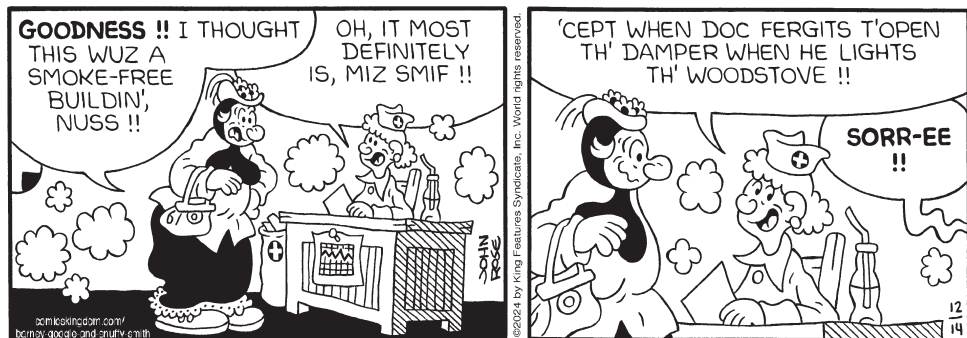
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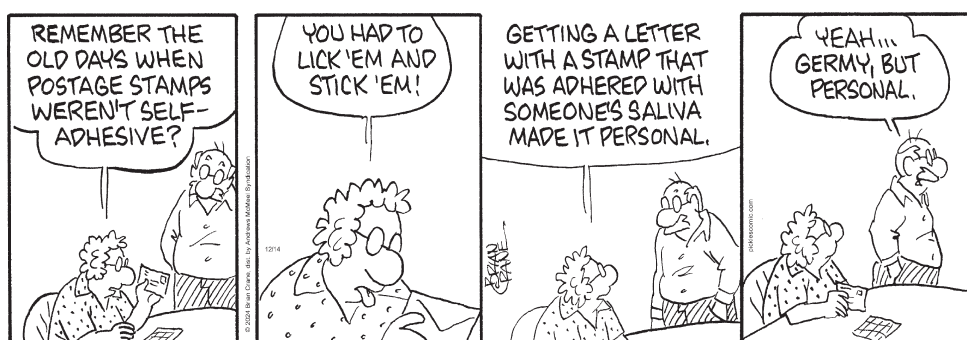
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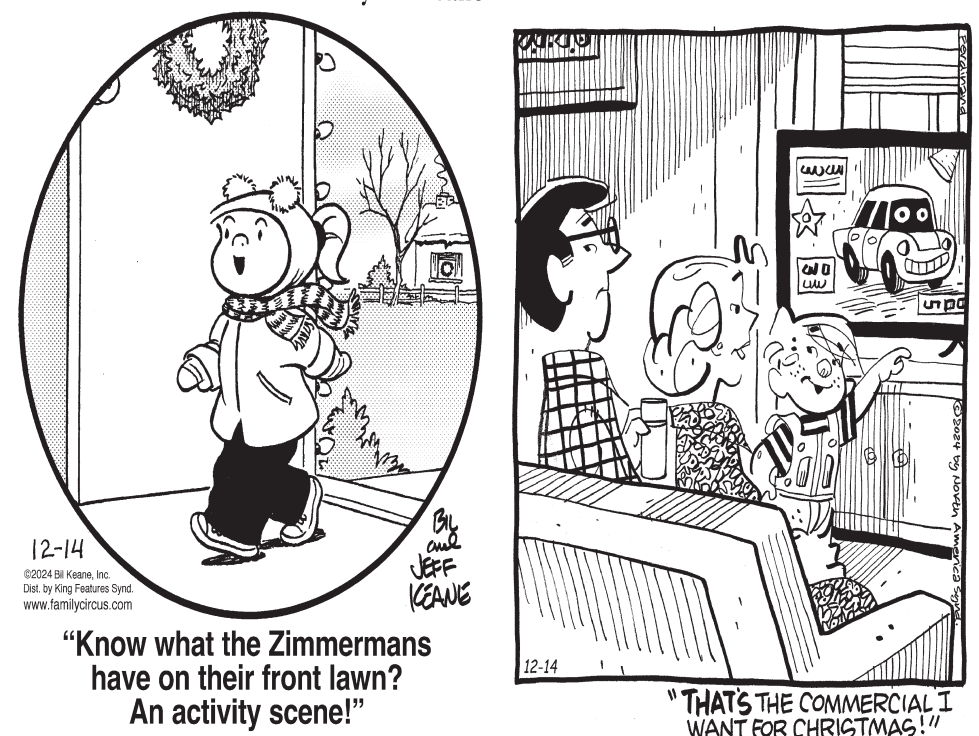


FAMILY CIRCUS

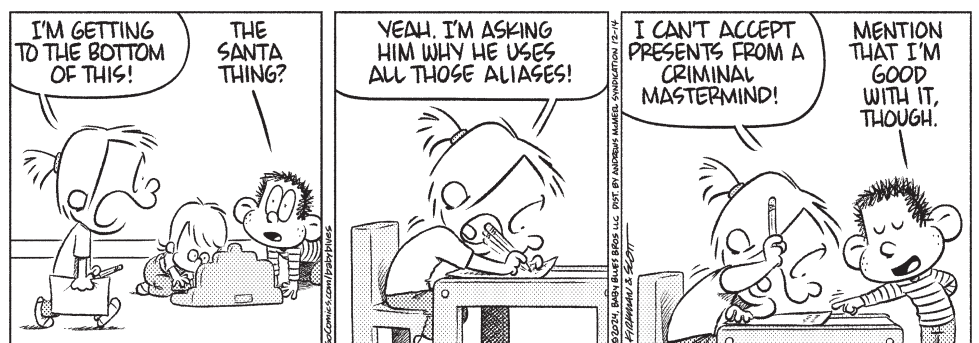
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

DENNIS THE MENACE



BABY BLUES



CURTIS



ZITS



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Saturday, Dec. 14
the 349th day of 2024. There
are 17 days left in the year.

Today in history:
On Dec. 14, 2012, a gunman with a semiautomatic rifle killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, then took his own life as police arrived; the 20-year-old had also fatally shot his mother at their home before carrying out the attack on the school.

Also on this date:
In 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Virginia, home at age 67.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his team became the first men to reach the South

Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to Blacks).

In 1995, the Dayton Accords were formally signed in Paris, ending the Bosnian War.

In 2020, the Electoral College confirmed Joe Biden as the nation's next president, ratifying his November victory in a state-by-state repudiation of President Donald Trump's refusal to concede he had lost; electors gave Biden 306 votes to Trump's 232.

In 2020, the largest vaccination campaign in U.S. history began with health workers getting shots on the same day the nation's COVID-19 death toll hit 300,000.

In 2021, Stephen Curry set a new NBA career 3-point record; the Golden State Warriors' guard hit his 2,974th 3-point shot against the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden.

Today's Birthdays: Tennis Hall of Famer Stan Smith is 78. Actor Dee Wallace is 76. Rock musician Cliff Williams (AC/DC) is 74. Former FBI Director James Comey is 64. Baseball Hall of Famer Craig Biggio is 59. Actor Natascha McElhone is 53. Actor Jackson Rathbone is 40. Actor Vanessa Hudgens is 36. Rapper Offset is 33. Singer Tori Kelly is 32. NFL wide receiver DK Metcalf is 27.

County Council endorses changes to recruit, retain employees

BY BOB DEMAREE

In an effort to better recruit and retain county employees, Jefferson County Council adopted several updates that will allow for increased pay for some employees at its meeting Tuesday.

For the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Council adopted a \$2,500 sign-in bonus payable after six months employment for certified law enforcement officers. Council member Chris Shelton said having a sign in bonus is a valuable recruiting tool "because of how hard it is to recruit already trained officers."

The Council also improved longevity annual rates as an incentive to retain experienced officers. For Sheriff's officers, the rates provide an additional \$7,500 pay for those with 25 plus years with the department, \$6,000 for 20 to 24 years, \$4,500 for 15 to 19 years, \$3,000 for 10 to 14 years, \$1,500 for 5 to 9 years and \$500

for 2 to 4 years. For jail employees the Council approved an additional \$3,000 pay for 25 plus years, \$2,500 for 20 to 24 years, \$2,000 for 15 to 19 years, \$1,500 for 10 to 14 years, \$1,000 for 5 to 9 years and \$500 for 2 to 4 years.

The total cost for the road officer longevity bonuses adds about \$81,000 in costs to the county while the jail officer longevity pay adds \$16,500.

In an effort to increase pay for employees in the County Clerk and County Auditor offices, the County Council gave its endorsement to staffing changes in both offices that would actually would lower overall costs to the county.

County Clerk Tabatha Eblen said she lost two employees in her office in the last month because they got jobs with better pay. Since Eblen took over the voter registration duties at the end of 2023, she said that position can be eliminated, allowing for

increasing pay for staff while saving the county \$13,457.

County Auditor Heather Huff said that with technology changes, her office can do its work with one less position which allows for increasing the pay of office staff while saving the county \$35,788 to general budget.

Council President Heather Foy noted the pay at both the city of Madison and town of Hanover has been higher than the county for similar positions. She commended efforts for "keeping and retaining quality" employees by increasing pay and avoiding turnover while also being more efficient in the county offices.

Council member Pam Crozier said she discussed the same topic with State Sen. Randy Maxwell on Monday, noting that is also happening in other counties in the state, where "they've had to be creative" in finding ways to increase pay while "trying to

retain the employees that they have left that have been in the offices and doing good jobs in trying to retain those staff members. He's seen that across the footprint, and wondered if we're seeing the same thing."

Eblen, who has been County Clerk since June 2016, will be completing her second full four-year term at the end of 2026, and cannot seek re-election. "I'm done in two years, and I want to keep my staff so the next clerk comes in with already trained staff. All they have to do is sit back and just learn."

Council member Chris Shelton said, "I appreciate the creativity in trying to build a solid good foundation for the transition," particularly for Eblen when she leaves office. "It's very important we be able to make that seamless transition and not bring a new department head in with untrained staff."

"I'm sure the judges would appreciate it as well," Eblen said.

"This is something that just improves our county jobs for years to come," said Huff, adding that she's also working to cross-train employees. "Now, everyone knows a portion of everyone's job."

Council member Dwayne May said, "This seems like a win-win. You get to keep the quality employees — the people that have experience and training — they get a bump in pay, and the county still saves money."

The Council approved the 2025 salary ordinance, which needed to be approved prior to the first pay period in the new year, but there will need to be updates in January that will formally approve the sign-in bonus in the Sheriff's Department, and the changes in the County Clerk and County Auditor offices.

County moves towards allocating remaining ARP dollars

BY BOB DEMAREE

The Dec. 31st deadline for Jefferson County to allocate its remaining American Rescue Plan funds is fast approaching with approximately \$340,000 remaining from the original \$6.2 million that was given the county in 2021.

Those final ARP dollars are expected to be dedicated at the County Commissioners meeting on Thursday, Dec. 19 meeting with indications voiced at Tuesday's County Council meeting that the funds would go towards converting a portion of the former Jefferson County Jail in downtown Madison into a juvenile correction facility and to support the Rykers Ridge-Telegraph Hill Regional Sewer District's project to make upgrades and repairs to that utility.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also called the COVID-19 Stimulus Package or American Rescue Plan, is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021, to speed up the country's recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and recession. Any dollars not obligated by the Dec. 31 deadline need to be returned to the U.S. Treasury, though the funds don't have to be spent until the end of 2026.

Mark Cheatham, a member of the sewer district board of directors, was at the County Council meeting to report on that project, noting a study by Midwestern Engineers determined the cost to rehabilitate the entire sys-

tem would be \$4.2 million. However, after researching funding options the board decided the project would result in passing too much of a rate increase to the district's 432 customers so the project was pared down to \$2.4 million.

Cheatham had made a funding request to the County Commissioners at their Nov. 7 meeting and told them about the sewer district's plans to apply for an Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) grant. "In order to apply for that we need to have a match in place of at least \$187,000 but we requested from Commissioners \$500,000, and I think they were thinking \$250,000 to \$300,000," said Cheatham.

"We could certainly use that money to do the projects that we need to not only improve but keep pace with what we need to do," Cheatham said. "We've got a lift station that needs immediate repair. That's my request."

Commissioner David Bramer said the county's contribution towards the Rykers Ridge project will hinge on the cost to convert a portion of the old jail into a juvenile correction facility — information he expects to have by next week.

"We're trying to figure out what is available because of other things we've talked about as far what we could afford," said Bramer, noting the Commissioners reached out to a contractor who has experience in operating a juvenile facility to be certain all regulations are met and to know what the conversion costs will be.

Bramer said the proposed facility would provide space to detain eight

males and eight females. "All the bunk beds will have to be changed to cut off the top bunk," he said, noting that each cell would house only one juvenile. He said there will need to be other modifications as well "probably some additional cameras would be needed, a wall or two for privacy on showers, and little bit of updating in the control room."

The County Council approved allocating \$100,000 for road repair for the county highway department from the ARP funds. "We do not have a contract to hold that money to do next year's road repairs but what we do have is the ability to appropriate this year and back date our correction for road repairs that have already taken place," said County Auditor Heather Huff, which will increase the highway department's cash balance going into next year. "I think this is a really good move. This is a fund that we had to do an operational loan last year, and this will hopefully keep them from having to do that next year."

The Council also approved encumbering ARP funds for already allocated projects that will have contracts before the end of the year. Encumbering funds involves moving monies from this year's budget to the next year's budget. Those ARP funded encumbrances approved were \$60,000 for a new animal shelter design, \$20,000 for a key fob system for employee entry at the Jefferson County Courthouse and \$63,475 for an attendance-on-demand time keeping system for county employees.

Hanover council approves dump truck purchase

BY BOB DEMAREE

Hanover Town Council held a brief meeting Tuesday to approve the purchase of a dump truck ahead of the winter season for plowing snow.

The dump truck was purchased at a cost of \$67,387.42 from Bachman Commercial, a dealership in Jeffersontown, Kentucky. To provide part of the funds, the council approved a transfer from the cumulative capital fund totaling \$31,000 with the remainder coming from the town's sewer fund.

In other business several appointments were approved to the town's

Board of Zoning Appeals for 2025 including Stan Totten, Kathi Scroggins, Nelson Ehlers, Kenny Degler and Ken Kraus Jr. The BZA's first meeting of the year will be Monday, Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m., when it considers a Conditional Use Permit and Variance for building a garage for auto detailing at 246 East Main Street, Hanover.

Appointments were also made to the town's Plan Commission including Council members Treva Shelton and Tim Buxton, and Superintendent of Streets and Utilities Scott Williams.

Additionally, Council

member Jane Stormer was elected the town's representative for 2025 on the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (SIRPC).

The Council also approved a final contract with Insituform Technologies for a slip-lining project to seal pipelines at First Street and the river bottoms at a cost of \$84,079.14 from contingency money from the town's recent sewer project with Hanover College.

There was also an announcement that Rumpke's dates to pick up recycling this month will be Dec. 16 and Dec. 30.

Plan Commission OKs zoning change for orthodontist office

BY BOB DEMAREE

A zoning change from low density residential to general business was approved for 130 Miles Ridge Road by the Madison Plan Commission at its meeting Monday.

The application was made by Dr. Michael Becht, who plans to open an orthodontist office in

that location. "For me to acquire the building or the parcel, it needs be zoned commercial for me to do business," said Becht.

The structure had previously been utilized as a dentist office by Dr. Thomas Goodlett, who retired 20 years ago and is listed as owner of the building. Becht said the

reason the property had been zoned residential at that time is that Goodlett lived in the basement.

Becht currently operates an orthodontist office at 410 West Street, according to the Michael Becht Orthodontics website, which also lists a location in Middletown, Kentucky.

TAX

FROM PAGE A1

"When I go to conferences, everyone is working towards an EMS tax," said Huff. "Everyone is looking at judicial LIT tax as well. That's another expense that's probably more than our property taxes can support in the future."

Madison Township Fire Chief Robert Black said what has been provided to the fire departments this year through the Public Safety tax is a "good way to get started but I think we're going to have to look at a local income tax," citing the challenges in funding fire services, and volunteers having to raise money for their departments.

He pointed out that fire departments provide public safety just as the County Sheriff's Department, but the Sheriff's Department doesn't rely on fish fries or Bingo nights to buy equipment as fire departments must do.

"In the next few years they'll be requiring fire departments to wear vests like law enforcement because it's getting that dangerous out there," said Black. "Law enforcement goes to police academy. We're doing the same amount of weeks on a volunteer basis. When you look at it from that perspective, there's no other public agency in this county" doing what the fire departments are doing to meet requirements as volunteers while also fundraising for equipment.

Madison Township Assistant Chief Rodney Black, Robert Black's twin brother, said there's much more required of firefighters today than when he began service 40 years ago when fires were basically limited to homes, cars and brush fires. Now, firefighters are going beyond structure fires and doing rescues on water, grain bins and hiking trails, and responding to incidents with aircrafts and electric vehicles. "There is a lot

more variety that we're having to adapt to" that is also requiring more insurance costs while creating more dangers for firefighters. "It's way different now, and expenses for that keeps going up and up and up."

Huff said although the county saw a slight increase in its Public Safety tax, there's a reason why the amount generated may be less than expected. "We bumped it up a little but everyone needs to understand, our income tax is one of the lowest in the state, and even if we did 20% compared to other counties, we're not collecting as much as what these other counties are collecting," she said.

Council member Pam Crozier noted, "It's a problem we all see across the board, not just in our county, it's across the country" to provide fire protection. "We don't have the volunteers, we don't have the money to find a solution for it, so we're trying work through that until somebody comes up with a solid

solution on how to work through these problems.

"I'm not even sure our community is aware there is an issue with fire departments within the communities that we live in," Crozier added. "I don't know if they appreciate what we do have currently, so we are aware of it, we're try-

ing to do what we can with what we have, and trying to support you. We truly appreciate everything you do, and until we have something better, then this is what we've got."

Foy said there might also should be a discussion about "what fire protection in this county could

and maybe should look like, potentially a complete restructuring" of fire departments to help find a better solution.

"Long story short, this is the beginning of the conversation, not the end as far as our fire services, and giving these guys support," said May.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU WANT OR HAVE OBAMACARE



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CPD officers recognized for response at tragic fire

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS
THE NEWS DEMOCRAT

Police Chief Mike Willhoite and Officer Ron Dickow were awarded Acclamation Certificates from Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear during the Carrollton City Council meeting on Monday for their roles as first responders in a tragic October house fire that claimed four lives in the city.

The fire would have claimed five lives if not for the efforts of the two officers to pull a 3-year-old girl from the burning house and provide first aid until an ambulance crew arrived to take over and transport the child to the hospital.

Mayor Robb Adams note the officers were juts two of many first responders, city employees and investigators who responded to the tragic event in downtown Carrollton on Thursday, Oct. 17 and remained at the scene for the better part of three days as all bodies were recovered.

“There were a lot of people involved during that scene,” Adams said, citing the local dispatch center, Carrollton and other local fire departments, city and county police, Public Works and utilities, and more. “Every single department had a hand in making that three-day tragedy work smoothly as we could to operate that whole scene.”

In addition to the officers, Adams recognized a few individual members from the responding fire departments. The recognition included letters that were given to him that were written by Willhoite on “what we saw and witnessed that day of people that went above and beyond to make that scene work.”

Those recognized specifically included Fire Chief Robert



Carrollton Mayor Robb Adams hugs Police Chief Mike Willhoite (right) during a ceremony to recognize Willhoite and other first responders who helped save a young girl’s life in an October house fire that tragically killed four family members in downtown Carrollton. Willhoite pulled the unconscious girl from the burning home but was unable to reach the others due to the home being fully engulfed with flames.

Taylor Williams

Hofmann, Carrollton Utilities Employee Sam Proctor, Carrollton Police Sgt. Tim Gividen, Sgt. James Dews, Assistant Chief Keith Dews, and Det. Dave Roberts.

Adams noted that on the morning of the fire, the first two officers who arrived on scene were Chief Willhoite and Officer Dickow and that the only person to survive the fire, the little girl, was saved because of “the actions of Chief Willhoite and Officer Dickow.”

“For those two ... we wanted to make sure that the ... life saving rescue of that little 3-year-old child ... is solely directed to

their actions and quick response time,” Adams said.

Adams said it was for that life-saving intervention that Willhoite and Dickow were awarded the Acclamation Certificates from Governor Beshear. Willhoite received the award by himself while Dickow was represented by his family including his son, city council member Jeff Dickow; wife Jennifer Dickow, and step-daughter Ashley McDonald.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

- Teen Council Members Brenna Mefford and Macie Miller were presented plaques recognizing their year-long service on the council at their final council meeting of 2024.
- “I will tell you two ladies that we’ve enjoyed having you,” Adams said. “It’s pretty obvious that you are highly intelligent and that you will succeed in whatever you decide to do.”
- Councilman John Booth, who did not seek re-election, was presented a plaque thanking him for his three years of service in what was his last regular meeting as a city council member.

“We appreciate your service and all your information that you have provided and been an active part of the city of Carrollton,” Adams said.

Booth, who has also previously served the city as a police officer, will be followed on the council by Casey Cable, whom Adams said “will be a great council member.”

While Booth is leaving the council he will continue to serve the city. He was later appointed to the Planning and Zoning board for a term that will end Dec. 31, 2028 and to the Code Enforcement board for a term ending on Dec. 31, 2026.

Nugent’s river terminal still expanding facility

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

A year after holding a grand opening and ribbon cutting at Nugent Sand Company-Milton’s new bulk material offloading and processing terminal, Operations Manager Clay Ferris said the facility has “been a game changer” for the Carroll County plant site.

Located on the Ohio River between Milton and Carrollton, Nugent Sand Company-Milton is heading into the second year of operation at its new bulk material river terminal with improvements ongoing at the facility while the company’s business continues to grow.

The project began in 2019 and was completed in 2023 costing between close to \$10 million dollars to build.

“It’s given us a lot of efficiencies on our river operations,” said Ferris. “That dock not only has allowed us to efficiently clean barges and offload barges ... but also service our river operations.”

Since the grand opening in November 2023 the new terminal has continue to make improvements. Ferris said the terminal has increased Nugent’s labor force, expanded the company’s dredging operations in the Ohio River, made work safer for employees, and created more flexibility.

He said docks at the new terminal are occupied by outside vendors about 30% of the time with the rest of the time reserved for Nugent’s internal use. However, Ferris hopes to increase outside use of the docks to 90% — meaning landing more outside business — and operate the docks on a daily basis.

Ferris said the company has “always had a barge cleaning operation” but the process was “antiquated” using a fraction cable crane accessed by a narrow catwalk to a set of barges than made for an

“older, unreliable, unsafe” operation that “wasn’t really efficient.”

He said Nugent had been approached by Mid-Continent Coal and Coke Company in 2017 as a terminal to “offload their coal that they would further dry into coke for Nucor (Steel Gallatin) ... and the conversation was reignited in 2019.”

Ferris said Nugent Milton had considered building a “land-based dock” so when the opportunity was presented, Nugent worked to “re-evaluate our internal needs and think about growing the future of the Milton mine site ... We saw an opportunity to not only improve our own operation ... but also open it up to offloading bulk aggregate products,” he said.

The first step in the project, which Ferris says was “a lengthy process,” was getting the required permitting by going through “all state and federal regulatory agencies ... to get all the permitting in place before” the previous infrastructure was removed to make way for the new equipment.

He said during the design phase of the project, the terminal “went through several iterations” of what it would look like. During that process, the company made sure to get input from the employees, managers, river personnel, and even the marine contractor “to determine what was best suited for us.”

They made sure to incorporate those concerns as well as functionality, efficiency, and safety of employees “our personnel, and the assets.”

He said building the new terminal at the Milton location, which is located between Louisville and Cincinnati, gives Nugent “a competitive advantage to help service Carroll County and beyond.”

The Milton location is Nugent’s “largest mine site” in the company.



The Nugent Bulk River Terminal after one year of operation on the Ohio River between Carrollton and Milton.

Taylor Williams



JOIN THE CIRCLE!

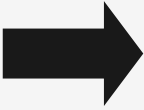
The Women’s Giving Circle, a program of the Community Foundation of Madison & Jefferson County, is a community of philanthropic women of all ages and backgrounds who combine their financial generosity to make a positive change for women and children throughout Jefferson County, Indiana.

Membership is an annual donation of \$100 for women and \$50 for girls ages 18 and under. Donations may be made with cash, check, credit card, or through an IRA or a Donor Advised Fund distribution.

Annual membership dollars are used to provide grants for programs and projects that educate, empower, and improve the lives of women and children in Jefferson County.

“I’m a member of the Women’s Giving Circle because it’s an easy way to give back to the community with no mandatory meetings. We provide grants to nonprofit organizations that directly help the women and children of Jefferson County.” -- Current WGC member

Scan this QR Code to learn more about the Women’s Giving Circle and to join TODAY!



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IVY

FROM PAGE A1

Through this model, students will enroll at Hanover College for their first year and take general education core classes. During the second and third year, the students will be dual enrolled with Ivy Tech Madison and take nursing classes to obtain their Associates of Science in Nursing. During their final year, students will complete their undergraduate studies at Hanover College to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

The partnership leverages Ivy Tech's accredited nursing programs and extensive clinical networks, combined with Hanover's strong liberal arts foundation, to offer a comprehensive and cost-effective route to a nursing career. The program prepares students for the NCLEX exam and enables them to enter the workforce as competent, patient-centered nursing professionals.



Bob Demaree

Ivy Tech Community College Madison Chancellor Dr. Amanda Harsin cuts the ribbon for the expansion and renovation of nursing and health sciences facilities at the local campus during an event Tuesday to celebrate the work that includes advanced nursing simulation labs.

Hanover College President Lake Lambert said, "Indiana is blessed with an incredible higher education eco system. We have a tremendous college system in Ivy Tech. We have nationally regarded four-year public institutions throughout the state, and we have 29 independent

institutions like Hanover College in the state of Indiana. However, in Jefferson County, the eco system is Hanover College and Ivy Tech, so I am very excited whenever we can work together to benefit this community and that is exactly what we've been able to do with our innovative 1+2+1 nursing program that allows students to earn an associates science and nursing degree from Ivy Tech Community College and the Bachelor of Science in nursing from Hanover College ...

"This is something we all know that we need," Lambert added. "It is not

something that Hanover College would have done alone but together we're stronger, and together we're able to offer this great opportunity for students not only in Jefferson



Bob Demaree

Hanover College President Dr. Lake Lambert (left) and Ivy Tech Madison Chancellor Dr. Amanda Harsin chat during the ceremony to unveil the new advanced nursing simulation labs at the Madison campus. Ivy Tech and Hanover are partnering for a 1+2+1 program that will provide Hanover College students an opportunity to obtain an Associates of Science in Nursing at Ivy Tech Madison while working toward their Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Hanover.

County but also for students throughout our region, and to invite those other folks to see how great Jefferson County is, and all the many things we have to offer."

RAGTOP

FROM PAGE A6

HOT TIP OF THE WEEK

I'm looking at the Wednesday through Sunday music calendar, and I'm seeing "Rivertown Grill" every single day! Nobody in town is as committed to presenting live music as our friend Joe Breeck at RTG. But I will say coming in a close second this week with music Wednesday through Saturday is the fine folks up at Tailgators on the hilltop. A couple of those nights are Karaoke, but that still counts in my book. It's music, and it's LIVE! And if you like Karaoke, Tailgators is your home base.

What else? First Street Saloon has been putting some fun bands on their tiny stage, you might want to take a look at The Imposters this Friday. The Taproom has live

music both Friday and Saturday this week, which is a rarity for them. Such a great place to relax, hang with friends and enjoy the music vibe. And finally, you might want to catch Joe & Deano this week, either at the Rivertown Grill on Wednesday or at Riverboat Inn on Friday. After the holidays, Joe heads south for a couple months, so this may be one of the last weekends to catch this entertaining and super talented duo.

Charlie Rohlfing is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd, anywhere live local music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 13

First Street Saloon — The Imposters
Rivertown Grill — Matt Red Moore

(9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Tailgators — Patriotic Karaoke
(9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Riverboat Inn — Joe & Deano
(7-10 p.m.)
Off Broadway Taproom — Jordan Wilson
(9 p.m.)
American Legion — Country Bourne
(8 p.m.-Midnight)
The Central — Crossfire
The Drake — Scotty Butters
(7 p.m.-10 p.m.)

Saturday, December 14

First Street Saloon — DJ Nate
Tailgators — Damn Strange
(9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Rivertown Grill — The Smokin Jokers
(9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Off Broadway Taproom — Jimmy Davis Band
(9 p.m.)
Thomas Family Winery — Davis & Devitt
(7 p.m.)
The Central — Lacey Lane

Sunday, December 15

Rivertown Grill — Darryl Hewitt
(7-10 p.m.)



Charlie Rohlfing

Members of Ragtop Deluxe are (from left): Dan Fouts, Andy Bierlein, Tony Young and Jim Coleman are shown.

May the miracle of Christmas fill you and your loved ones with inspiration, hope and joy.
Your friendship has been a bright spot in our year.
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SPORTS

Knoebel scores 1,000th point as Shawe routs Hauser

BY DAVID CAMPBELL
Allison Knoebel got to score her 1,000th-career point in front of her home fans and Shawe shrugged off a slow start to hammer Hauser 57-37 in girls basketball Tuesday at home.

Knoebel needed only 11 points to reach the coveted milestone last week and everybody expected her to do it against Southwestern on Friday. But she went on to post only eight points in the Shawe win.

As it turned out, failing to reach the milestone last week just meant she got to do it at home, something that brought a smile to her face.

“I’m glad it happened at home with all my teammates and family surrounding me,” Knoebel said. “I’ve always dreamed of being on that board since I was little.”

With just three points needed to achieve the feat on Tuesday, it didn’t take Knoebel long to punch that ticket. She scored on a runner in the lane less than two minutes into the contest then drilled a jumper with 2:48 to go in the first to push her over the top.

Knoebel is just the sixth player in program history to achieve the feat.

“That’s really special. To score 1,000 points in a career, that’s something that’s tough to do,” Shawe coach Drew Kring said. “I couldn’t be more proud of her. She’s more

than deserving again. It’s a testament to what she does.”

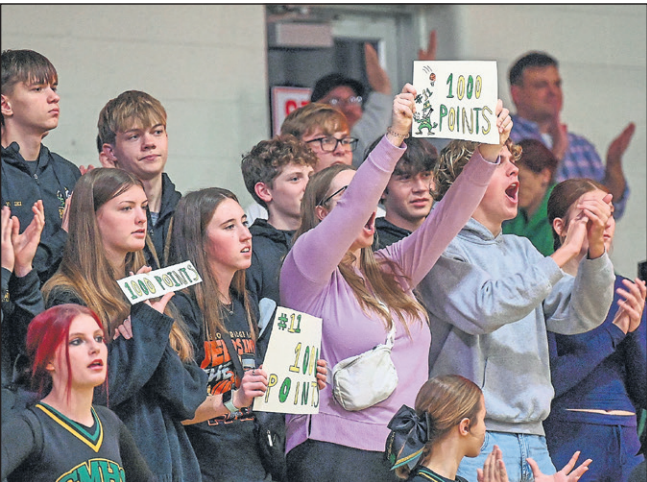
For a while, it looked like Knoebel’s accomplishment might be the only thing worth celebrating on the night for the Hilltoppers. Shawe led just 11-9 after the first quarter, but found itself in a 19-14 hole midway through the second due to missed shots and turnovers.

But in almost a blink of an eye, Shawe reversed course and quickly took over the game. The Hilltoppers closed the second on a 17-2 run to take a 31-21 lead into halftime then outscored Hauser 18-5 in the third to seize control of the game and cruise to the win from there.

While Kring was more than happy to take the win, he was also quick to point out that his talented team needs to get off to better starts if it wants to be the kind of squad everybody envisions.

“When you don’t come out and you don’t warm up well and come out flat, that stuff happens,” Kring said. “Against a team like this, we can overcome it, and we did. But against a good team, you dig yourself a hole and it’s tough to get back out. We have yet to play a full four quarters the way we expect. We have played well at times but we have to put together a full game.”

Knoebel agreed that the Hilltoppers weren’t



David Campbell

Shawe’s student section celebrates Allison Knoebel’s 1,000th-career point in the Hilltoppers’ rout of Hauser on Tuesday.

sharp at the start.

“I think our warm up was a bit sloppy. We weren’t really totally in it, but once we started going, we were good,” Knoebel said.

Shawe ended up shooting 37% (19-for-52) for the game and hit eight 3-pointers while knocking down 11-of-14 from the free-throw line. Audrey Barron had a double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Hilltoppers while Knoebel had 11 points, seven rebounds and five assists.

But the real x-factor may have been Jamison Williams, who made Hauser pay for its attention to Barron and Knoebel. The junior was 5-of-9 on 3-point attempts for 15 points and pulled down four rebounds.

“We have four really good shooters, and Odd-yessy Felix does a great

job defensively. But if you’re gonna leave any of those four — especially Jameson — open, they’re going to hit it,” Kring said. “I’m comfortable with (Williams) taking it. She deserved this game, I can tell you that.”

Hauser (6-3) actually shot a better percentage from the floor than Shawe (38%) but hit six fewer shots and turned the ball over 18 times. Norah Berkenstock had 13 points to lead the Jets.

Now 6-2 on the season and winners of four-straight, Shawe was to play its biggest game of the season on Thursday when it hosted South Ripley in a contest that may very well decide the champion of the Ohio River Valley Conference.

The Hilltoppers then travel to Switzerland County on Saturday and host Trinity Lutheran on Tuesday.



David Campbell

Shawe’s Allison Knoebel (11) scored her 1,000th-career point in the Hilltoppers’ win over Hauser on Tuesday. She is just the sixth player in program history to reach the milestone.

Carroll football coach resigns after one season

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP
After less than a year at the helm, Coach Joshua A. Smith has announced his resignation as head football coach at Carroll County.

Smith, hired to take over the program last spring after the departure of Lonnie Oldham following a 6-5 season, tendered his resignation this week and posted a note on social media Tuesday to inform the public about his decision.

“Today marks the end of a deeply meaningful chapter in my life, as I announce my resignation as Head Football Coach at Carroll County High School. This decision was not easy to make, and it’s one that weighs heavily on my heart because of the countless memories, friendships, and lessons shared along this journey,” Smith wrote, adding in summary. “While I step away as coach, Carroll Coun-



Jennifer Willhoite

Carroll Football coach Joshua Smith.

ty will forever be a part of me. I’m taking with me unforgettable memories, countless lessons, and an appreciation for the friendships and bonds built along the way. Thank you for the honor of being your coach,

for the laughter, the struggles, the triumphs, and for showing me what it means to be a Panther. I’ll always be cheering from the sidelines.

Smith, a first-year head coach after working as an assistant at Frankfort, Shelby County, Sayre and Kentucky State University, had taken the reins at Carroll County, promising a season not just about touchdowns, but with a focus on integrity and sportsmanship on and off the field.

The Panthers went 1-9 in 2024 and missed the Class 2A, District 5 playoffs for the first time since 2001 when the Panthers were 4-6 under Dave Eckstein. Carroll forfeited its second game of the season against Kentucky Country Day due to illness and injury, was shutout in four of its remaining eight games and did not post a win until the Panthers’ season finale on Oct. 25, a 33-25 win

at Gallatin County, which was also 1-9 and missed the playoffs.

“To my players — thank you for the trust and commitment you’ve shown each day. I’ve watched each of you grow, face adversity, and rise above challenges with courage and resilience,” Smith wrote. “The grit you’ve shown on and off the field, your growth as individuals and as a team, has been inspiring to witness. Coaching you was more than just calling plays or leading practices; it was about working with young people of incredible potential and heart. You have given me a renewed belief in the power of unity, hard work, and dedication. We have accomplished so much in just a short amount of time.

“To the parents and families, thank you for the sacrifices you’ve made and the unwav-

ering support you’ve shown. I have seen first-hand the dedication behind the scenes — the late nights, the early mornings, the commitment to be there for each game and every milestone,” Smith added. “Your support built the foundation for these young athletes to succeed, and I am grateful to have had you by my side through this season.

“To the faculty, administration, and Panther fans who welcomed me, supported our vision, and stood by our team through thick and thin — your belief in us made everything possible. Together, we created a legacy of resilience, pride, and sportsmanship that will live on long after my departure,” he added. “I am humbled to have been a part of this community, where we could feel the impact of each cheer and every encouraging word.”

Madison wrestlers knock off Switzerland 42-26

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Madison picked up a wrestling win over Switzerland County, 42-26 at home on Wednesday.

The Cubs claimed eight wins on the night with Ethan Pittman (120 pounds), Segar Ralston (138), Taye Labolt (157), William Livingston (165), Garrett Deuser (175), Kyair Barker (190), Ayden Waggoner (215) and Jason Cosby (285) each coming out on top.

Leo Oatman (106), Michael Gross (113), Ethan Rose (126), Dakota Fields (132), Peyton Richards (144) and Ethan Jones

(150) had wins for Switzerland.

Results were: 106 — Leo Oatman (SC), forfeit; 113 — Michael Gross (SC) over Kieran Lock (M), Dec 13-12; 120 — Ethan Pittman (M) over Landon Gross (SC), Dec 6-1; 126 — Ethan Rose (SC) over Drew Zuckschwerdt (M), TF 17-2 3:05; 132 — Dakota Fields (SC) over Trenton Bivens (M), Dec 8-5; 138 — Segar Ralston (M) over Carson Craig (SC), TF 15-0 1:31; 144 — Peyton Richards (SC) over Brendan Bentz (M), TF 21-6 6:00; 150 — Ethan Jones (SC) over Zane Skin-

ner (M), MD 20-; 157 — Taye Labolt (M) over Jaksyn Smithson-Cox (SC), TF 18-3 4:56; 165 — William Livingston (M) over Landon Penhall (SC), TF 21-4 4:00; 175 — Garrett Deuser (M) over Jacoby McKay (SC), Fall 1:48; 190 — Kyair Barker (M), forfeit; 215 — Ayden Waggoner (M) over Tyler Weber (SC), Fall 1:07; 285 — Jason Cosby (M) over (SC). forfeit.

CUBS WIN 3 AT JEFF DUALS
Madison picked up three wins in the always tough Jeffersonville Duals over the weekend.

The Cubs knocked off host Jeffersonville 48-27, Jennings County 39-38 and Providence 70-6 but lost to Class 3A No. 1 Floyd Central 60-10, Class 3A No. 2 Columbus East 48-24, Class 2A No. 6 Heritage Hills 42-34 and East Central 42-36.

“It was a tough tournament where we got to see three highly ranked programs and nearly pulled off a win over sixth ranked Heritage Hills,” Madison coach Philip Wimpee said. “We also had wins over Jennings County and Jeffersonville which is something we haven’t done

in the same season in nearly 20 years.”

Zuckschwerdt went 7-0 at 126 pounds to lead Madison on the weekend. Ralston (138 pounds) and Bentz (144) each went 6-1 and Deuser (175) finished 5-1.

Madison heads to Columbus North on Saturday. The Cubs then compete at Columbus East on Saturday, Dec. 21. Switzerland competes at Indianapolis Chatard on Saturday and then joins Madison at Columbus East on Saturday, Dec. 21.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DEC. 13 BASKETBALL Madison boys at South Dearborn, 7:30 p.m. Shawe boys host Jac-Cen-Del, 7:30 p.m. Southwestern boys at New Washington, 7:30 p.m. Switzerland Co. boys at Rising Sun, 7:30 p.m.	Madison girls host Seymour, 1:30 p.m. Southwestern girls at South Central, 1:30 p.m. Hanover men hosts Manchester, 3 p.m. Switzerland Co. girls host Shawe, 6 p.m. Madison boys host Brownstown, 7:30 p.m. Southwestern boys at Batesville, 7:30 p.m.	WRESTLING Madison boys at Columbus North, 9 a.m. Southwestern boys at Evansville Memorial, 9 a.m. Switzerland Co. boys at Chatard, 9 a.m.	Trimble Co. boys at Eminence, 7:30 p.m.	Trimble Co. boys host Williamstown, 7:30 p.m. Trimble Co. girls at Eminence, 7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, DEC. 14 BASKETBALL Hanover women hosts Manchester, 1 p.m.	SWIMMING Shawe, Southwestern, Switzerland Co., Seymour Invite, 9 a.m.	MONDAY, DEC. 16 BASKETBALL Carroll Co. boys host Henry Co., 7:30 p.m.	TUESDAY, DEC. 17 BASKETBALL Shawe girls host Trinity Lutheran, 6 p.m. Carroll Co. girls host Henry Co., 7:30 p.m. Madison boys host North Decatur, 7:30 p.m. Southwestern girls at Eastern (Pekin), 7:30 p.m. Switzerland Co. girls at South Ripley, 7:30 p.m.	SWIMMING Madison hosts Jeffersonville, 6 p.m. Shawe, Southwestern at Charlestown, 6 p.m. Switzerland Co., Rivertown Classic at South Dearborn, 6 p.m. WRESTLING Southwestern boys hosts Henryville, 6 p.m. Switzerland Co. girls host Madison, Borden, 6 p.m.

Burrow, Chase stay hot as the Bengals finally end 3-game skid

BY MITCH STACY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals finally managed to win a close game.

Seven of Cincinnati's eight losses this season have been by one score. The frustration of not being able to close out these games had started to fester among the co-founded Bengals.

That's why Monday night's 27-20 win over the Dallas Cowboys was so satisfying.

Joe Burrow threw a tie-breaking 40-yard touchdown pass to Ja'Marr Chase with 1:01 left. That was set up by a botched punt block that put the ball back in Cincinnati's hands with less than two minutes remaining.

"I guess I could say luck went our way on this one," Bengals coach Zac Taylor said.

Most every other good thing that happened for Cincinnati (5-8) in snapping a three-game skid was earned. Burrow finished 33 for 44 for 369 yards with three touchdowns and an interception. Chase caught 14 passes for 177 yards and two touchdowns.

"We needed this feeling because those last three locker rooms haven't been like this," Taylor said. "So



Julio Cortez/Associated Press

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase (1) celebrates his touchdown with wide receiver Tee Higgins (5) on Monday during the second half of an NFL game against the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, Texas. The Cincinnati Bengals won 27-20.

just to feel that joy and the week's worth of work has paid off for you, and then you turn the page and move on to the next one. But it helps you during the week just to have this confidence. We got one, and now we've got to go do it again."

The Bengals outgained the Cowboys 433-322.

"It's an opportunity for the world to see and we're

going to keep fighting," Taylor said of getting the win on Monday Night Football. "So when the Bengals walk on the field, you're going to get our best shot."

WHAT'S WORKING

The Burrow-to-Chase connection is as robust as ever.

"Coming into this game, I

was going to feed Ja'Marr," Burrow said. "I felt he had some opportunities last week (in the 44-38 loss to the Steelers) that we didn't quite take advantage of. So, I was just going to make sure if I got an opportunity with him, I was going to give it to him."

Both are enjoying prolific seasons. Burrow leads the league in passing yards

(3,706) and touchdowns (33). Chase, who is expecting a contract extension that will make him one of the league's highest-paid receivers, leads the NFL in receptions (93), receiving yards (1,319) and touchdowns (15).

"We feed off each other," Burrow said. "We make each other better. We are both really smart players."

Trey Hendrickson's key sack of Cooper Rush late in the game increased his NFL-leading total to 12 1/2.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

The secondary is still inconsistent. The protection provided to Burrow by a reshuffled offensive line was subpar. Granted, he often moves around outside the pocket to try to make something happen, but the franchise quarterback is hit too hard too often.

goals and made all three of his extra points.

STOCK DOWN

A spongy defense allowed Cowboys RB Rico Dowdle to rush for 131 yards at 7.3 yards per carry. WR CeeDee Lamb beat Bengals cornerback Mike Hilton badly on the Cowboys' first touchdown. Lamb had six catches for 93 yards.

INJURIES

Burrow limped off the field after he was dragged down by his facemask by the Cowboys' Marist Liufau in the fourth quarter. He was seen putting a compression sleeve on left knee before returning for the next Bengals possession. Afterward, he said he was fine.

"It's nothing crazy," he said. "I just landed on it a couple of times. We'll see. It'll be sore for a while, but I'll be all right."

KEY NUMBER

4 — Games in a row in which Burrow passed for at least 300 yards and three touchdowns. Monday night's win was the first win in that stretch.

NEXT STEPS

The Bengals have a short week to prepare for the Tennessee Titans on Sunday (**TV:** FOX at 1 p.m.).

Burrow laments loss of privacy after home break-in

CINCINNATI — Cincinnati quarterback Joe Burrow kept his comments short Wednesday when addressing the media about having his home broken into two nights earlier while he and the Bengals were on the road against the Dallas Cowboys.

"I feel like my privacy has been violated in more ways than one," Burrow said. "Way more is out there than I would want out there and that I care to share.

So that's all I've got to say about that."

The NFL and NBA issued security alerts to their players late last month after several homes were broken into while athletes were away for games.

The NFL's alert came after the homes of Kansas City Chiefs stars Patrick Mahomes and Travis Kelce were targeted in October.

"Obviously it's frustrating, disappointing," Mahomes said after

the alert was issued.

Burglaries of homes owned by Milwaukee Bucks forward Bobby Portis and Minnesota Timberwolves guard Mike Conley Jr. prompted the NBA to send out an alert the day after the NFL's.

Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa said Wednesday he hired personal security when one of his cars was broken into about a year ago.

"(It was) a little too close for

my comfort with my family being in the house," Tagovailoa said. "So we got personal security to take care of all of that. When we're on the road, we've got someone with my wife, got someone also at the house, surveying the house."

No one was injured in the break-in at Burrow's home, which was ransacked, according to a report provided by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

A person employed by Burrow arrived at the Anderson Township home Monday night to find a shattered bedroom window and the home in disarray.

"We live a public life, and one of my least favorite parts of that is the lack of privacy," Burrow said. "That has been difficult for me to deal with for my entire career. I'm still learning. I understand that's the life that we choose, but it doesn't make it any easier to deal with."

Chiefs QB Mahomes critical of NFL scheduling

BY DAVE SKRETTA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — You can count Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes among those who are not exactly thrilled about the NFL forcing the two-time defending Super Bowl champions to play three times over an 11-day span in the coming weeks.

The Chiefs are among four teams — the Texans, Steelers and Ravens are the others — who were picked to play on Christmas Day this year. But with the holiday falling on Wednesday, when the NFL has rarely played, those four also will have to play the prior Saturday to give them at least some rest. And the result is two short weeks following their games on Sunday.

"It's not a good feeling,"

Mahomes acknowledged Wednesday. "You never want to play this amount of games in this short of time. It's not great for your body. But at the end of the day it's your job, your profession, you have to come to work and do it."

The Chiefs visit the Browns on Sunday, while the Ravens visit the Giants, the Steelers visit the Eagles and the Texans host the Dolphins.

On Dec. 21, the Texans head to Kansas City and the Steelers visit Baltimore, before the Christmas Day doubleheader that begins with the Chiefs heading to Pittsburgh and ends with the Ravens in Houston.

Mahomes was asked whether he has ever had three games in such a short span, he replied: "I haven't in football."

He has in high school baseball, of course. Maybe basketball. But certainly not football, and not at the physical level of the NFL.

"All you can do is focus on the game. The practice you have that day," Mahomes said. "I try to prepare my body all year long for this stretch. That's tailoring my workouts, tailoring how you practice and prepare, and the coaches do a great job of taking care of us on the practice field. We practice as hard as anybody, but they know how to dial it back when needed."

The NFL has played on Wednesday in the past, the previous time in 2020, when the Steelers and Ravens had their game pushed back because of a COVID-19 outbreak.

In 2012, the NFL's opener between the Giants

and Cowboys took place on Wednesday so the TV networks could broadcast Barack Obama's speech at the Democratic National Convention.

But prior to those games, the NFL had not had a Wednesday game since the Lions and Rams played on Sept. 22, 1948.

"It's a unique situation. You just have to manage it," said Chiefs coach Andy Reid, whose team will have played on every day of the week but Tuesday this season. "It is what it is. You make the best of it."

It's not as if the games involved in the Christmas stretch are throwaways, either. Each has significant playoff ramifications.

The Chiefs have already clinched the AFC West, but they are trying to fend off Buffalo and Pittsburgh for the No. 1 seed and first-

round playoff bye. The Steelers are two games ahead of the Ravens in the AFC North heading into this weekend, and could clinch a playoff berth if things fall their way, while the Texans are two games up on the Colts in the AFC South.

So, how are the Chiefs approaching such an important stretch of high-profile games?

"The main thing is you get guys ready for the game. Give them a chance to get ready for the game," Reid said. "They're going to do whatever you present to them. You try to help them out with that. Right now we have a normal week right here. We have to take care of business here."

NOTES: LT D.J. Humphries (hamstring) did not practice Wednesday,

though he has not been ruled out for Cleveland. "Every day he's gotten a little better," Reid said. ... WR Hollywood Brown (shoulder) could begin practicing soon, Reid said, while declining to put a timetable on it. "He's chomping at the bit to get out there. But he's got to visit the with doctors and make sure he gets clearance there," Reid said. ... CB Steven Nelson came out of retirement to join the Kansas City practice squad this week. He will not play this weekend but could be ready soon. ... K Harrison Butker (knee) will try kicking this week, though Reid was non-committal on whether he would come off injured reserve. If he's not ready, Matthew Wright would kick against the Browns.

Bills defense seeking to make statement against high-scoring Lions

BY JOHN WAWROW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Cornerback Taron Johnson is still agitated over the dud the Buffalo Bills defense produced in giving up season worsts in points and yards, while melting down on third down in a loss to the Los Angeles Rams last weekend.

There's no better time or opportunity to show how much better they are than this Sunday. That's when the Bills (10-3) travel to play the NFC-leading Detroit Lions (12-1), who just happen to lead the NFL in scoring and feature the same dynamic style of offense as the Rams.

"I think our mindset is just going to be attack," Johnson said after practice Wednesday. "We can't wait to play Sunday just to

prove people wrong and prove to ourselves that how we played wasn't who we are."

The Bills acknowledge having several excuses to lean on for why they unraveled in a 44-42 loss — riding a little too high after a division-clinching win, a cross-country trip and facing a more driven opponent in the thick of a playoff race. What's unacceptable is the hesitancy their usually reliable defensive backs showed in coverage and the lack of pressure applied by their defensive front.

The bright side is the substandard performance potentially serving as a late-season reminder of this not being the time to let their foot off the gas.

"A lot of teams have scars on their way to having a darn good season. And we're having a darn

good season," coach Sean McDermott said.

"So what has to be in front of us this week is the opportunity that's in front of us, quite frankly, to challenge that team," he added, referring to Detroit. "You better bring your heart, you better bring your guts, you better put it on the line."

With a little bit of added fire, the Bills are going back to the basics on defense following an outing in which very little went right. The defense was off-balance from the start in being unable to stop the run, before eventually being picked apart in the passing game while allowing the Rams to score on each of their first six drives (not including a kneel-down to close the first half) in building a 38-21 lead.

The most frustrating part was Buffalo's inability to get off the field while allowing the Rams to convert 11 of 15 third-down chances. LA's 73.3% third-down conversion rate was the third highest against Buffalo — and worst since Miami converted 75% of its chances in 1986 — since the stat was introduced to NFL gamebooks in 1973.

"The recipe to lose a football game is what we did (Sunday) and it starts with me, first and foremost," defensive coordinator Bobby Babich said Monday. "Move on and let it not happen again. Let it be a learning lesson. Failure is the best teacher."

The challenge is preparing for an exceptionally balanced Lions offense that ranks fourth in the NFL in both rushing and passing, and averaging

32.1 points per outing.

The objective, McDermott said, is to not over-correct but stick to the fundamentals that led to Buffalo winning seven straight before losing to Los Angeles. He placed an emphasis on winning at the line of scrimmage and forcing takeaways, something Buffalo failed to do last weekend for the first time this season.

A little more urgency, would help, too.

"It is a mentality. It is an attitude, and if you want to play good defense, that's where it starts," McDermott said. "There's not a lot of shortcuts or ways around it. It's got to be a mentality."

The message resonated even on offense, where quarterback Josh Allen nearly rallied the Bills to victory while becoming

the NFL's first player to throw three touchdown passes and rush for three more scores.

"It was a case of you saw a team that's fighting for their lives to try to make the playoffs in the Los Angeles Rams, and they came out ready to play. And maybe we didn't have that type of urgency," Allen said. "It forces us to know that we've got to be better. We know that."

NOTES: LB Baylon Spector (calf) and DE Dawuane Smoot (wrist) returned to practice Wednesday, opening their 21-day windows to be activated off IR. ... Starting CB Rasul Douglas did not practice and could miss time after hurting his knee on Sunday. ... Buffalo has until this weekend to determine whether to activate OL Tylan Grable (groin) off IR.

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Madison girls roll over New Washington, 58-22

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Juliana Davis scored 25 points and Addison Roark had 19 as Madison rolled over New Washington 58-22 in girls basketball Tuesday on the road.

Davis made 11-for-13 from the field — including 3-of-4 on 3-pointers — and added six rebounds, nine steals and three assists in an impressive overall game. Roark had seven rebounds and Mylee McQueary had 12 points and nine rebounds.

Madison, now 6-1 on the season, hosts Seymour on Saturday and travels to Jennings County next Thursday.

SHAWE BOYS KNOCK OFF CAM

Shawe boys basketball picked up its first win of the season, 63-29 at Christian Academy of Madison on Tuesday.

“It was a good win for us. We needed it,” Shawe coach Dan Hambrick said. “It’s early in the season and we have a lot of work to do but the kids played hard.”

Senior Braiden Smith scored 28 points and dominated on the glass to lead Shawe. Gus Grote added 13 points and Cavaan Hambrick had 11.

Shawe, now 1-2 on the season, hosts Jac-Cen-Del on Friday and then hosts Crothersville next Friday, Dec. 20.

LADY REBELS HAMMER MILAN

Southwestern used a balanced attack to hammer conference foe Milan 61-22 at home in girls basketball on Tuesday.

Freshman Mikayla Nussbaum led the Rebels with 13 points while Baleigh McAfee had 12 points and five rebounds. Olivia Simpson, Rorie Scroggins, Chloey Leach and Harlee Hill each had seven points with Scroggins and Hill grabbing eight rebounds. Savannah Nussbaum had four points and seven steals.

Southwestern, now 6-3 overall and 1-1 Ohio River Valley Conference, hosted New Washington on Thursday and heads to South Central on Saturday. The Rebels then travel to Eastern (Pekin) on Tuesday.

TRIMBLE BOYS BEAT FCA

Trimble County boys basketball defeated Frankfort Christian 64-47 on Tuesday at home for the Raiders’ first

win of the season.

Ethan Keller had 28 points to lead the Raiders while Hudson Jent scored 16.

Trimble, now 1-3 on the season, hosted Carroll County on Thursday and heads to Eminence on Monday. The Raiders then host Williamstown on Tuesday.

CARROLL GIRLS FALL TO BEECHWOOD

Carroll County girls basketball suffered its first loss of the season, 51-32 at home to Beechwood on Tuesday.

Elle Spencer had 13 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Panthers and Kelby Maiden had seven points and five rebounds and Mallory Noble and Cloie McGuire had 5 points each.

Carroll, now 2-1 on the season, travels to Trimble County on Friday and hosts Henry County on Tuesday.

SWITZ. GIRLS LOSE AT FRANKLIN CO.

Switzerland County’s girls basketball team fell 62-41 at Franklin County on Tuesday.

Switzerland, now 3-6 on the season, hosts Shawe on Saturday and travels to South Ripley on Tuesday.

No. 5 UK pulls away in 2nd half to beat Colgate 78-67

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Koby Brea scored 17 points, including five to cap a critical second-half spurt that rallied No. 5 Kentucky past Colgate 78-67 on Wednesday night.

Jaxson Robinson made consecutive 3-pointers to spark the Wildcats’ 14-2 run over 7:31 for a 63-49 lead, a surge that included 3s by Trent Noah, Ottega Owel and Brea for the needed cushion. The Raiders (2-9) overcame a 17-0 hole, trailed 38-36 at halftime and eventually led 41-40 early in the second half on Jalen Cox’s 3-pointer.

Kentucky down point guards Lamont Butler and Kerr Kriisa due to injury. Noah, a freshman from Harlan County, stepped up to give UK 11 valuable minutes off the bench and was a force on the defensive end while adding three points, an assist and a rebound.

“He’s been playing so well in practice for us and he’s been working so hard,” UKK Coach Mark Pope said of Noah. “He’s really got no agenda other than to get better every day. I thought he really gave us a boost. I think he played nine straight minutes, give or take (in the second half).”

Brea finished 5 of 8 from long range and 6 of 12 overall for Kentucky (9-1), which was coming off a 90-89 overtime win over then-No. 7 Gonzaga on Saturday night.

Amari Williams and Owel each added 15 points, while Robinson and Andrew Carr had 11 apiece.

“I was proud of the way our guys kind of responded,” Pope said. “Our guys rang the bell the way that they do.”

Parker Jones had 17 points while Brady Cummins and Jalen Cox had 10 each for Colgate, which dropped its fifth consecutive game.

The Wildcats shot 43% overall and 49% after halftime, while the Raiders shot just 41% overall.

TAKEAWAYS

Colgate: The Raiders initially appeared shell-shocked after trailing 17-0 before they found confidence and eventually grabbed the lead. Momentum faded quickly as the Raiders couldn’t stop the Wildcats from outside.

Kentucky: The Wildcats seemed in control at first before going cold and playing sloppy and unfocused during the middle parts of the game. Falling behind provided a wake-up call, and the Wildcats responded.

KEY MOMENT

Trailing 47-46, Kentucky made four 3-pointers in five shots during a 12-0 run over 2:53.

KEY STATS

Kentucky made 13 of its final 26 shots, including 6 of 13 from behind the arc.

UP NEXT

Kentucky hosts rival Louisville on Saturday (TV: Live on ESPN at 5:15 p.m.).

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IU opens Big Ten play with 82-67 win over Gophers

BLOOMINGTON — Oumar Ballo had 18 points, Malik Reneau and Bryson Tucker both scored 16 and Indiana breezed to an 82-67 victory over Minnesota in the Hoosiers’ Big Ten Conference opener Monday night.

Ballo made all five of his shots from the floor, adding seven rebounds for the Hoosiers (8-2). He made 8 of 11 at the free-throw line after coming in

shooting 54.2% there (26 for 48). Reneau hit 7 of 10 shots and grabbed seven rebounds. Tucker had six boards and made 6 of 10 shots off the bench.

Reserve Kanaan Carlyle hit three of Indiana’s four 3-pointers and totaled 14 points with five assists. Mackenzie Mgbako scored 13.

Dawson Garcia led the Golden Gophers (6-5, 0-2) with 22 points on 9-for-15 shooting. Mike Mitchell

Jr. and Lu’Cye Patterson both scored 10.

Ballo and Tucker both had 11 points and Reneau scored 10 to lead Indiana to a 44-31 advantage at halftime. Tucker had back-to-back baskets to give Indiana a 24-22 lead with 9:52 left and the Hoosiers never trailed again.

Myles Rice and Reneau had the first two baskets of the second half to push Indiana’s lead to 17.

Carlyle’s three-point play gave the Hoosiers their largest lead at 68-47 with 9:46 left to play. Minnesota got no closer than 12 from there.

Indiana beat the Golden Gophers for the ninth straight time overall and ninth straight time at home. The Hoosiers lead the all-time series 110-69.

Indiana travels to play Nebraska on Friday (TV: Live on FOX at 8 p.m.).

Edwards Jr. scores 22 to help Cards end skid

Louisville 77, UTEP 74

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Terrence Edwards Jr. had 22 points, James Scott and J’Vonne Hadley both secured a double-double and Louisville edged UTEP 77-74 on Wednesday night to snap a three-game losing streak.

Louisville created some separation midway through the second half by scoring nine straight points, punctuated by back-to-back dunks from freshman Khani Rooths for a 63-55 lead. But UTEP scored eight of the next 10 points to get within two points.

Devon Barnes made a jumper from the free-throw line with 45.8 seconds left to get UTEP within 73-72 and Kevin Kalu had a putback dunk on their next possession with 8.4 seconds left for another one-point deficit.

Louisville got two free throws by Reyne Smith with 6.2 seconds left for a three-point lead. UTEP had an open look at the

other end for a tying 3-pointer but Corey Camper’s shot hit off the back iron as time expired.

Hadley had 13 points and 12 rebounds, and Scott added 11 points and 11 boards for Louisville (6-4). Chucky Hepburn added 12 points and seven assists.

Camper led UTEP (6-3) with 19 points and Barnes added 16. Ahamad Bynum scored 14.

Elijah Jones made his third 3-pointer of the season in the closing second of the first half to give UTEP a 36-32 lead. Louisville missed its final eight shots of the half to finish at 37% shooting with eight turnovers.

Camper, who entered 6 of 22 from 3-point range this season, made a 3-pointer with 17:26 remaining to extend UTEP’s lead to 43-36.

Louisville plays at No. 5 Kentucky on Saturday (TV: Live on ESPN at 5:15 p.m.). UTEP returns home to play Tarleton State on Monday.

COURIER AREA SPORTS SHORTS

BY THE COURIER STAFF

— Southwestern junior varsity girls basketball defeated Milan 67-6 on Tuesday.

Annie Ford had 24 points for the Rebels.

Southwestern, now 6-0, 1-0 Ohio River Valley Conference, hosted New Washington on Thursday and heads to South Central on Saturday.

— Madison junior varsity wrestling competed in the Columbus East Invitational on Saturday.

A.J. Badillo and Gio Rojas each had wins for

the Cubs.

— Southwestern Middle School girls basketball suffered a pair of losses against Scottsburg on Wednesday.

The seventh grade fell 29-28. Kaylee Garvey had 18 points for the Rebels.

The eighth grade lost 34-32. Josie Hubbard had 16 points and Julia Pelsor scored six.

— Southwestern Middle School boys basketball swept two games from Milan on Wednesday.

The seventh grade won 52-6. Colin Flint had 21

points for the Rebels while John Swalley and Graham Robison scored nine each.

The eighth grade won 60-17. Shane Hill had 20 points, Jaxon Higgins scored 19 and Quenton Lewis scored 16.

On Monday, Southwestern swept South Ripley in two games.

The seventh grade won 46-22 with Flint scoring 20 points, Jacob Adams eight and Swalley seven.

The seventh grade won 58-37 with Lewis scoring 21 points, Higgins 15 and Hill 12.

Insurance Companies are Safe, Secure and Boring



Layin’ it on the line

By Stephen Dybwad
Retirement Planning/
Wealth Management

Bored can be an ideal reason for trusting an insurance company. Boring means things are going as planned.

Ensuring the safety and stability of insurance companies is a critical aspect of the financial landscape, especially for individuals serious about annuities. The security of an insurance company not only impacts its policyholders but also plays a significant role in the broader economic system. In this discussion, we will explore the various facets that contribute to the safety of insurance companies and why individuals invested in annuities should pay close attention to these factors.

One of the primary indicators of an insurance company’s safety is its financial strength. A financially robust insurer is better equipped to meet its obligations to policyholders, ensuring that annuity payments are made as promised. Regulatory bodies closely monitor the financial health of insurance companies, imposing strict capital requirements to mitigate the risk of insolvency. For annuity holders, this means peace of mind, knowing that the insurer has the resources to fulfill its long-term commitments.

In addition to financial strength, risk management practices are integral to an insurance company’s safety. Robust risk assessment and mitigation strategies help insurers navigate uncertainties and unexpected challenges. These can include market fluctuations, changes in interest rates, and unforeseen events that may impact on the company’s ability to meet its obligations. For those serious about annuities, understanding the insurer’s risk management framework is crucial, as it directly affects the stability of the annuity over time.

Another critical aspect of insurance company safety is regulatory compliance. Insurance is a heavily regulated industry, and compliance with regulatory requirements is non-negotiable. Regulatory bodies establish rules and standards to ensure fair practices, consumer protection, and the overall stability of the insurance market. Annuitants should be aware of the regulatory environment in which their chosen insurance company operates, as a history of compliance issues could indicate potential risks to policyholders.

Diversification of investment portfolios is a key strategy employed by insurance companies to enhance safety. By spreading investments across various asset classes, insurers aim to reduce the impact of market volatility on their overall financial position. For individuals serious about annuities, this diversification can translate into a more stable and predictable income stream. Understanding how an insurer manages its investment portfolio is essential for annuity holders, as it directly influences the company’s ability to generate returns and meet its financial commitments.

Furthermore, operational efficiency and technological advancement contribute significantly to an insurance company’s safety. A well-run organization with streamlined processes and effective use of technology is better equipped to adapt to changing market conditions and serve its policyholders efficiently.

Technological innovations, such as advanced data analytics and artificial intelligence, can enhance risk assessment, fraud detection, and customer service, ultimately contributing to the safety and reliability of the insurer.

For individuals seriously considering annuities, assessing the reputation and credibility of an insurance company is paramount. Customer reviews, industry ratings, and testimonials can offer insights into the experiences of other policyholders. A company with a strong reputation for reliability and customer satisfaction is more likely to provide a secure foundation for annuity investments. In conclusion, the safety of insurance companies is a multifaceted consideration for individuals serious about annuities. Financial strength, risk management, regulatory compliance, diversification, operational efficiency, technological advancements, and reputation all play integral roles in determining the safety and stability of an insurer. By delving into these aspects and understanding how they contribute to the overall safety of an insurance company, annuitants can make informed decisions to secure their financial future.

Stephen Dybwad, a long time Hoosier resident, is a member of Syndicated Columnists, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management. Syndicated Columnists is the sole provider of this material, both written and conceptual, for this column. All rights reserved.

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Odom takes over Purdue with bigger NIL budget

Questions linger about payment dispute at UNLV

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Purdue athletic director Mike Bobinski promised to give new coach Barry Odom everything he needed to revive the Boilermakers program.

Increasing the NIL budget is a solid start.

Odom knows what's coming next — the questions. So naturally, it didn't take long for the former UNLV coach to be asked one thing he's likely to hear frequently on the recruiting trail: Could he explain the payment dispute that led to the departure of his starting quarterback, Matthew Sluka, after just three games this season?

"I think every story, you look at what you're able to say, what's the truth, what's the reality and what's fabricated," Odom said Tuesday at his introductory news conference. "I think you look at that very specific instance there was very open communication from the day the recruiting process started. Everything we did as a staff, as a university, as an athletic department was by the book and by the law."

HOW IT HAPPENED

Sluka transferred from Holy Cross to UNLV after twice being selected as a Walter Payton Award finalist. The award goes to the best player in the Football Championship Series.

He didn't last long in Las Vegas. Sluka entered the transfer portal after winning all three starts, claiming he never received a promised \$100,000 NIL payment. Odom issued a statement at the time saying the program abided by the "applicable rules."

On Tuesday, he seemed to acknowledge that part of the explanation was a continuing quarterback competition between Sluka and Hajj Malik-Williams, who took over as the starter and led UNLV (10-3) to its best record in 40 years and a second straight Mountain West Conference championship game appearance. Malik-Williams was a second-team all-conference selection.

Odom likely will need more detailed answers for prospective recruits if he intends to make the Boilermakers competitive again in a Big Ten with four play-off-bound teams.

REBUILDING

It's a combination Purdue desperately needs following an embarrassing 2024 season in which it went 1-11 (0-9 Big Ten) and suffered the two most lopsided losses in school history — 66-7 to Notre Dame and 66-0 to Indiana. He takes over a team that lost its final 11 games and did not beat an FBS opponent.

Navigating the path back in what's likely to be the first year of revenue sharing and NIL caps tied to roster limits could be even trickier given what he's facing. The state's other two most prominent programs — No. 3 Notre Dame (11-1, No. 5 CFP) and No. 9 Indiana (11-1, No. 8 CFP), will meet in a first-round playoff game on Dec. 20.

There are other complications, too. Purdue signed only six recruits on the first day of the early signing period and has 21 players currently in the transfer portal, including All-American safety Dillon Thieneman, starting linebacker Yanni Karlaftis, starting tight end Max Klare and two quarterbacks.

THE PITCH

Odom does have some advantages at Purdue — a strong alumni base led by former NFL star Drew Brees, a recently renovated stadium, other upgraded facilities and the school's longtime reputation as the "Cradle of Quarterbacks."

The biggest advantage, though, will be Purdue going all in on NIL money.

"We're going to operate at the full cap," Bobinski said. "We're going to be as resourced as anybody in the country, allowing Barry and his staff the ability to go out there and be eyeball to eyeball with everybody we're competing for, a transfer or from a high school recruiting perspective."

Bobinski said Odom's results at UNLV were the primary attraction, though.

As the Boilermakers continued to struggle in November, Bobinski started studying the revival of a UNLV program that had struggled for decades. What he found was that the man Missouri fired in 2019 after posting a 25-25 record in four seasons had earned a second chance with a Power Four program.

"What was accomplished at UNLV these last couple years was nothing short of remarkable," Bobinski said. "What that shows me is Coach Odom brings a very unique combination of an old-school, traditional football toughness and mindset with ability to operate and adapt to today's college football environment."

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	FRIDAY EVENING										
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Happy's	Lopez..	Dateline NBC				WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	S.W.A.T. (N)		Fire (N)		Blue Bloods (F)		CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Happy's	Lopez..	Dateline NBC				News
8 WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	BobHe..	BobHe..	Childr..	Childr..	News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Shark Tank (N)		20/20				News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Shark Tank (N)		20/20				News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Comm..	Week	Restless		Violent (N)		BBCN..
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Basketball Indiana at Nebraska (N)				To Be Announced		
32 WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	S.W.A.T. (N)		Fire (N)		Blue Bloods (F)		News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	BobHe..	BobHe..	Childr..	Childr..	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	TBA		Basketball Indiana at Nebraska (N)				To Be Announced		
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		First 48 (N)		Cold Case (N)		Killer Cases (N)		First48
AMC	29	26	Christ..	Year Without a Santa ...		The Polar Express ('04)				Fred Claus ('07)			
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Family..	Family..	Family..
DISC	31	38	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Gold Rush (N)		(:05) Last W. (N)		(:05) Gold		GoldR..
DISN	25	29	Bluey	Bluey	Jessie		Home Alone 2: Lost in New York		Place	Place	Place	Place	Kiff
ESPN	32	44	SportsCenter		Finalists		Herbies		30 for 30		College Football		
FREE	18	40	(5:15) 7777	Toy Story 3		(4:45) 7777	Toy Story 4 ('19)		7 Dr. Seuss' How the Gri...		700Club		
FX	40	28	7777 Dr. Seuss' The Grinch ('18)		77777 Home Alone ('90)		Macaulay Culkin.		7 Home Alone ...				
HBO	201	17	(1:15) 77777	Dirty Harry ('71)		777777 Unforgiven ('92)				7 Super/ Man: Christop...			
MAX	270	73	(2:20) 777	Demolition ('15)		77777 A Most Wanted Man ('14)		(:05) 77 Cut Bank ('14)					
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41	(5:45) Y..	(5:50) Yellowstone	(5:50) Yellowstone	(4:45) Yellowstone	(5:50) Yellowstone	(5:50) Yellowstone	(5:50) Yellowstone	(5:50) Yellowstone	Friday the 13th (P)		
PARSHO	221	16	Dexter		Dexter		Dexter		The Agency		77777 Friday the 13th (P)		
TMC	233	74	Movie	(3:5) 77	Disquiet ('23)		7 Last Voyage of the Demeter				7777 Beau Is Afraid ('23)		
TNT	27	43	(4:30) 77 Justice L...	77777 Wonder Woman ('17)		Chris Pine, Gal Gadot.		Rampage		Movie			
USA	26	33	7777 London Has Fallen ('16)		Fri. Night SmackDown (N) (Live)		77777 Jason Bourne ('16)						

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	SATURDAY EVENING											
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	Chefs	Song	Night's Main Event (N) (Live)				SNL		WAV..	
4 WTTV	4		(3:00) Fo..	Postga..	TBA	Sheldon	Nugget Is Dead? A Christmas S...				48 Hours (N)		CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2		News (N)		NBCN..	Let'sT..	Night's Main Event (N) (Live)				SNL		News	
8 WISH	12		News	FamFe..	The Grand		Christmas Parade (N)				News (N)		News	
9 WCPO	23		(3:30) Fo..	World..	WisemL..	Cash	NBA	NBA Basketball Teams TBA (N) (Live)				News		
11 WHAS	11	4	(3:30) Fo..	World..	Crusade	NABC..	NBA	NBA Basketball Teams TBA (N) (Live)				News		
15 WKPC	13		Antiques		TimFa..	RedGr..	Kentuc..	Ky.Afi..	Mrs. Brown ('97)				Austin	
19 WXIX	10		(5:30) College Basketball			Hoops	College Basketball				TBA		Floor	
32 WLKY	5	5	(3:00) Fo..	Postga..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Nugget Is Dead? A Christmas S...				48 Hours (N)		News	
34 WBKI	7	7	JudgeJ..	JudgeJ..	The Rookie		Christmas Parade (N)				House..	House..	TwoM..	
41 WDRB	8	9	(5:30) College Basketball			Hoops	College Basketball				News (N)		News	
A&E	28	36	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	
AMC	29	26	(5:00) F Polar Ex...		F F F F Elf ('03) Will Ferrell.			F F F Four Christmases ('08)				F Elf		
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	(2:20) The Office		Office	Office	F Talladega Nights: Ball...			
DISC	31	38	Expedition X		Expedition X		Expedition X		Expedition X		Expedition		Expedi..	
DISN	25	29	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	F Diary of a Wi...		(2:20) Shortsmas		Phineas	Holiday	Raven	
ESPN	32	44	(5:15) Basketball		(1:15) SportCtr		Heisman (N)		College Football					
FREE	18	40	Movie	(4:45) F F F F Home Alone ('90)						(1:15) F Home Alone 2: Lost in New York				
FX	40	28	(5:30) F F F F Incredibles 2 ('18)				F F F How the Grinch Stole Christmas				F Dr. Seuss' Gr...			
HBO	201	17	(5:55) F F F F Joker ('19)				To Be Announced				(2:20) Dune "Twice Born"			
MAX	270	73	(2:20) The Knick		The Knick		F Devil Wears Prada			(5:50) F F F F The Lovers ('17)				
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..	
PARMT	35	41	(5:25) Y.. Yellowstone		(4:45) Yellowstone			(2:25) Yellowstone			(4:45) Yellowstone			
PARSHO	221	16	The Agency		The Agency		The Agency		F The Fabulous Four (P)			(4:45) F Bad Moms		
TMC	233	74	Movie	F F F Vantage Point ('08)			F F F F Michael Clayton ('07)			F F F F Identity ('03)				
TNT	27	43	(4:30) Basketball		Inside the NBA		Wrestling: Collision (N) (Live)				F Mad Max: Fury Road			
USA	26	33	F F F F Gladiator		Joaquin Phoenix, Russell Crowe.			F F F F Gladiator			Russell Crowe.			

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	SUNDAY EVENING											
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	Football (N)		(1:15) NFL Football	Football Green Bay Packers at Seattle Seahawks (N)						
4 WTTV	4		(4:25) NFL Football			60 Minutes (N)		Evening With Dua (N)			NCIS		CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	Football (N)		(1:15) NFL Football	Football Green Bay Packers at Seattle Seahawks (N)						
8 WISH	12		News	Inside..	Christmas-The Chosen				Conners	Conners	News	Sports	News	
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	***** The Sound of Music ('65) Julie Andrews.				News					
11 WHAS	11	4	World..	News	***** The Sound of Music ('65) Julie Andrews.				News					
15 WKPC	13		Last/..	KeepUp	Last Tango		Lucy Wors (N)		Creatures		Creatures		Velvet	
19 WXIX	10		(4:25) NFL Football			The OT	Univer..	Simpso..	Burgers	Krapo..	FOX19 (N)		FOX19	
32 WLKY	5	5	(4:25) NFL Football			60 Minutes (N)		Evening With Dua (N)		NCIS		News		
34 WBKI	7	7	BigBa..	BigBa..	Christmas-The Chosen				Conners	Conners	The Grand		9-1-1	
41 WDRB	8	9	(4:25) NFL Football			The OT	Univer..	Simpso..	Burgers	Krapo..	News (N) (Live)		News	
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		Atlanta	
AMC	29	26	*** Uncle Buck ('89)				National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation							* Trading Places
COM	45	59	*** The Wedding Singer ('98)				*** 50 First Dates ('04)				Family Guy		Family..	
DISC	31	38	Homestead "Alligator Aid" (N)				Homestead Rescue (N)				Homestead		Homes..	
DISN	25	29	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Movie	* Tim Burton's Nightma...			ZOM..	ZOM..	ZOM..	Primos	
ESPN	32	44	Game On		SportCtr (N)		SportC..		Women's College Volleyball			SportCtr (N)		
FREE	18	40	(4:40) * Home Al..		(1:20) ***** The Santa Clause ('94)				(1:25) *** The Santa Clause 2 ('02)					
FX	40	28	(4:30) * How the ...		***** Home Alone ('90) Macaulay Culkin.				* Home Alone 2: Lost in New York					
HBO	201	17	(5:45) D..		(4:5) Dune		(5:50) Dune "Twice Born"		Dune (N)		Dune: Prophecy		Dune	
MAX	270	73	(1:15) ***** Eye in the Sky ('15)				* White Bird in a Blizzard		* Eyes of My ...		* Wes Craven ...			
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..	
PARMT	35	41	(5:30) Y..		(3:5) Yellowstone		Yellowstone (N)			(4:5) 1923 (N)		Yellow..		
PARSHO	221	16	(5:45) * Mission: Impossible – Gho...			The Agency		The Agency (N)		Dexter: Sin (N)		Agency		
TMC	233	74	*** Men, Women & Children				***** Flags of Our Fathers ('06)			(1:15) * 6 Days ('17)				
TNT	277	43	(4:45) * Father o...		Grinch		***** The Wizard of Oz ('39)			Grinch		(1:15) * The Wizard of Oz		
USA	26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..	

Gabriel, Hunter, Jeanty, Ward named Heisman finalists

BY ERIC OLSON
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

Oregon's Dillon Gabriel, Colorado's Travis Hunter, Boise State's Ashton Jeanty and Miami's Cam Ward were announced as the Heisman Trophy finalists on Monday night.

The Heisman has been given to the nation's most outstanding college football player since 1935. This year's winner will be announced Saturday in New York. The top four vote-getters determined by more than 900 voters are selected as finalists. The voting panel includes members of the media and former Heisman winners.

A look, in alphabetical

order, at each of the finalist's road to Manhattan.

DILLON GABRIEL, OREGON

Gabriel, who transferred from Oklahoma in the offseason, led unbeaten and top-ranked Oregon to the Big Ten championship in its first year in the league and the No. 1 seed in the College Football Playoff.

Gabriel averages 274 yards passing per game and has thrown for 28 touchdowns with six interceptions. His 73.2% completion rate is second in the nation. His 35 total touchdowns are tied for seventh nationally, and his career total of 187 is

the highest in NCAA history.

He set the all-time Football Bowl Subdivision record for career quarterback starts with his 62nd in the Big Ten title game.

TRAVIS HUNTER, COLORADO

Hunter, will go down as one of the great two-way players in history. His accomplishments harken those of Charles Woodson, the Michigan cornerback who in 1997 became the first Heisman winner who primarily played defense.

Woodson also spent time at receiver, but Hunter's offensive production dwarfs his. Hunter was

named All-Big 12 first-team receiver and earned honorable mention for offensive player of the year. He leads the Big 12 with 92 receptions and 14 receiving touchdowns and is second with 1,152 yards. His 21 receiving plays of 20-plus yards lead the nation.

He also is Big 12 defensive player of the year and a unanimous first-team defensive back after recording 31 tackles, tying for the Big 12 lead with 11 pass breakups and tying for second with four interceptions.

ASHTON JEANTY, BOISE STATE

The junior running back has had one of the

most productive seasons in college football history. His 2,497 yards rushing are the fourth-highest single-season total in the FBS, and his 192.1 yards per game lead the nation and are 58 more than the next highest average. Jeanty has rushed for at least 125 yards in 13 straight games.

Jeanty has gone over 200 yards in his last two games and a total of six times this season. He averages 7.26 yards per carry, and his 344 attempts are the most in the FBS in two seasons. He and Army's Bryson Daily share the national lead with 29 rushing touchdowns.

CAM WARD, MIAMI

The Miami quarterback was named Associated Press offensive player of the year and newcomer of the year in the Atlantic Coast Conference on Monday. He leads the nation with a school-record 36 passing touchdowns and his 4,123 passing yards, 4,319 total yards, 343.6 passing yards per game and 41 total touchdowns rank second.

Ward leads the nation's highest-scoring offense (44.2 ypg). He became the first Miami quarterback to post seven straight 300-yard games, and he has 10 games with 300-plus yards and three or more TD passes.

Tar Heels announce 5-year deal with Belichick

BY ROB MAADDI AND AARON BEARD
AP SPORTS WRITERS

Bill Belichick had seemingly been waiting for the right opportunity to return to an NFL sideline. Instead, the six-time Super Bowl-winning head coach is headed to the college ranks to take over at North Carolina.

The school announced it had reached a five-year deal with Belichick on Wednesday night, roughly a week after Belichick's name surfaced as an unlikely candidate to replace the program's winningest all-time coach in Mack Brown. The deal requires approval by UNC trustees as well as the UNC public system's governors; an introductory news conference has yet to be scheduled.

Moving on from the 73-year-old Brown to hire the 72-year-old Belichick means UNC is turning to a coach who has never worked at the college level, yet had incredible success in the NFL alongside quarterback Tom Brady throughout most of his 24-year tenure with the Patriots, which ended last season.

There's also at least a small family tie to the UNC program for Belichick; his late father, Steve, was an assistant coach for the Tar Heels from 1953-55.

"I am excited for the opportunity at UNC-Chapel Hill," Belichick said in a statement. "I grew up around college football with my dad and treasured those times. I have always wanted to coach in college and now I look forward to building the football program in Chapel Hill.

He's arriving on campus at a time of rapid changes in college athletics, from free player movement through the transfer portal and athletes' ability to cash in on endorsements to the looming arrival of revenue sharing. Consider the Belichick hiring a novel approach by the school to rethinking how it will approach those challenges, led by someone known for success at the highest level of the sport.

"We know that college athletics is changing, and those changes require new and innovative thinking," UNC athletics director Bubba Cunningham said in a statement. "Bill Belichick is a football legend, and hiring him to lead our program represents a new approach that will ensure Carolina football can evolve, compete and win — today and in the future."

Belichick holds 333 career regular-season and postseason wins in the NFL, trailing only Don Shula's 347 for the NFL record, while his 31 play-off wins are the most in league history.

He's the second coach to win a Super Bowl and then later become a college head coach; Bill Walsh won three Super Bowls

with the San Francisco 49ers and later went 17-17-1 at Stanford from 1992-94.

He had been linked to NFL jobs in the time since his departure from the Patriots, notably the Atlanta Falcons in January. That's why word of Belichick's conversations with UNC — first reported by Inside Carolina and confirmed by the AP last week — stirred such surprise as an unexpected and unconventional candidate.

But the two sides had been in discussions for several days working on terms before finally reaching an agreement to cap what once seemed an improbable outcome.

Belichick said Monday on ESPN's "The Pat McAfee Show" that he'd had "a couple of good conversations" with UNC chancellor Lee Roberts and that he'd spent much of the past year taking a "longer

look" at college football.

"If I was in a college program, the college program would be a pipeline to the NFL for the players that had the ability to play in the NFL," Belichick said Monday. "It would be a professional program: training, nutrition, scheme, coaching, techniques that would transfer to the NFL."

"It would be an NFL program at a college level. And an education that would get the players ready for their career after football, whether that was the end of their college career or at the end of their pro career."

Belichick began his NFL coaching career as an assistant with the Baltimore Colts in 1975 and later worked as defensive coordinator under Bill Parcells with the New York Giants, winning two Super Bowls during that stint. He also spent five seasons as

head coach of the Cleveland Browns in the first half of the 1990s.

He got his second shot as a head coach in 2000 with the Patriots. And in his second year, as Brady rose to stardom, Belichick won his first Super Bowl title as a head coach.

The Belichick-Brady duo went on to win the Super Bowl for the 2003, 2004, 2014, 2016 and 2018 seasons, and Belichick was The Associated Press NFL coach of the year three times.

Now he takes over a UNC program that is facing a familiar challenge of how to build a sustained winner. The program had reached elite levels in moments rather than eras, notably with Brown building UNC into top-10 national stats (1996, 1997) to end

SEE **COACH/PAGE B8**

CFP first round to impact bowl season

BY MARK LONG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Greg McGarity had reason to be concerned. The Gator Bowl president kept a watchful eye on College Football Playoff scenarios all season and understood the fallout might affect his postseason matchup in Jacksonville.

What if the Southeastern Conference got five teams into the expanded CFP? What if the Atlantic Coast Conference landed three spots? It was a math problem that was impossible to truly answer, even into late November.

Four first-round playoff games, which will end with four good teams going home without a bowl game, had the potential to shake up the system. The good news for McGarity and other bowl organizers: Adding

quality teams to power leagues — Oregon to the Big Ten, Texas to the SEC and SMU to the ACC — managed to ease much of the handwringing.

McGarity and the Gator Bowl ended up with their highest-ranked team, No. 16 Ole Miss, in nearly two decades.

"It really didn't lessen our pool much at all," McGarity said. "The SEC bowl pool strengthened with the addition of Texas and Oklahoma. You knew they were going to push traditional SEC teams up or down. Texas ended up pushing just about everyone down."

The long waiting game was the latest twist for non-CFP bowls that have become adept at dealing with change. Efforts to match the top teams came and went in the

SEE **BOWL/PAGE B7**



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TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit/Superior Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39C01-2310-MF-000868 wherein CMG Mortgage, Inc. was Plaintiff, and Hope R Draper, et al., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 23 day of January , 2025, at the hour of 10am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Lane, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE IO EAST, MADISON TOWNSHIP, JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER BEING MARKED BY A MAG NAIL SET; THENCE ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER WITH BORCHERDING ROAD NORTH 0028'11" WEST, 696.46 FEET (PASSING THROUGH MAG NAIL AT 150.00 FEET, 300.00 FEET, AND 546. 46 FEET) TO A MAG NAIL SET AT THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID EAST LINE NORTH 00°28' 11" WEST, 150.00 FEET TO A MAG NAIL SET; THENCE LEAVING SAID EAST LINE AND BORCHERDING ROAD SOUTH 89°09'11" WEST, 374.51 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A 4" IRON PIPE FOUND AT 33.99 FEET) TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 0002°48' EAST 150.00 FEET TO A V" IRON PIPE FOUND; THENCE SOUTH 8915 14" WEST, 300.12 FEET (PASSING THROUGH STEEL FENCE POSTS FOUND AT 100.08 FEET AND 199.59 FEET) TO A STEEL FENCE POST FOUND; THENCE NORTH 0004°24' EAST 4.69 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 893648" WEST, 666.03 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A STEEL T-BAR FOUND AT 232.70 FEET) TO A 5/8" REBAR SET ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST LINE SOUTH 00°23'20" EAST, 370.55 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE LEAVING SAID WEST LINE NORTH 890911" EAST, 393.50 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 0023 20" WEST, 60.00 FEET TO A 5/8" REBAR SET; THENCE NORTH 890911" EAST, 946.22 FEET (PASSING THROUGH A 5/8" REBAR SET AT 906.22 FEET) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 8.60 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND SUBJECT TO ALL LEGAL RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT. (THIS DESCRIPTION IS FROM A SURVEY RECORDED JANUARY 13, 2015 AS INSTRUMENT NO.20150116 AND IS DESIGNATED AS TRACT 3 ON SUCH SURVEY.)

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Plaintiff Attorney:
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Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
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BOWL

FROM **PAGE B6**

1990s and first decade of this century before the CFP became the first actual tournament in major college football. It was a four-team invitational — until this year, when the 12-team expanded format meant that four quality teams would not be in the mix for bowl games after they lose next week in the first round.

“There’s been a lot of things that we’ve kind of had to roll with,” said Scott Ramsey, president of the Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tennessee. “I don’t think the extra games changed our selection model to much degree. We used to look at the New York’s Six before this, and that was 12 teams out of the bowl mix. The 12-team playoff is pretty much the

same.” Ramsey ended up with No. 23 Missouri against Iowa in his Dec. 30 bowl. A lot of so-called lesser bowl games do have high-profile teams — the ReliaQuest Bowl has No. 11 Alabama vs. Michigan (a rematch of last year’s CFP semifinal), Texas A&M and USC will play in the Las Vegas Bowl while No. 14 South Carolina and No. 15 Miami, two CFP bubble teams, ended up in separate bowls in Orlando.

“The stress of it is just the fact that the CFP takes that opening weekend,” Las Vegas Bowl executive director John Saccetti

said. “It kind of condenses the calendar a little bit.” Bowl season opens Saturday with the Cricket Celebration Bowl. The first round of the CFP runs Dec. 20-21. It remains to be seen whether non-CFP bowls will see an impact from the new dynamic.

They will know more by 2026, with a planned bowl reset looming. It could include CFP expansion from 12 to 14 teams and significant tweaks to the bowl system. More on-campus matchups?

More diversity among cities selected to host semi-final and championship games? And would there be a trickle-down effect for everyone else?

Demand for non-play-off bowls remains high, according to ESPN, despite increased focus on the expanded CFP and more players choosing to skip season finales to either enter the NCAA transfer portal or begin preparations for the NFL draft.

“There’s a natural appe-

tite around the holidays for football and bowl games,” Kurt Dargis, ESPN’s senior director of programming and acquisitions, said at Sports Business Journal’s Intercollegiate Athletics

Forum last week in Las Vegas. “People still want to watch bowl games, regardless of what’s going on with the playoff. ... It’s obviously

SEE **BOWL/PAGE B8**

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Gastineau confronts Favre in documentary on Strahan sack record

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Former New York Jets star Mark Gastineau confronted Brett Favre last year at a memorabilia show and angrily accused the Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback of deliberately going down on a record-breaking sack.

The tense exchange is shown in the ESPN 30 for 30 documentary “The New York Sack Exchange,” which premieres Friday. It chronicles the Jets’ fearsome foursome defensive line of the 1980s that included Gastineau, Pro Football Hall of Famer Joe Klecko, Marty Lyons and the late Abdul Salaam.

Gastineau set an NFL record with 22 sacks in 1984, but Pro Football Hall of Famer Michael Strahan broke the mark when he sacked Favre in 2002 in a game between the Giants and Packers. It was a controversial play on which many have accused Favre of purposely taking the sack so Strahan could set the single-season record with 22 1/2.

The documentary shows

Gastineau approach Favre during a show in Chicago. The two shake hands, with Favre saying he thinks they’ve met previously. Gastineau then tells the former quarterback: “Yeah, right, when you fell down for him. I’m going to get my sack back. I’m going to get my sack back, dude.”

Favre tries to make light of the situation, joking that Gastineau “probably would hurt me.”

The former sack king fired back: “Well, I don’t care. You hurt me. You hurt me! You hear me? You really hurt me. You really hurt me, Brett.”

The situation was quickly defused when Favre was escorted from the area.

In an interview shown in the documentary, Gastineau reiterates what he told Favre in person.

“Anybody will tell you that Brett Favre took a dive,” he said.

After the clip went viral on social media Tuesday, Favre posted a thread on X “to clear the air on the footage released showing a small dustup” between him

and Gastineau.

“I booted out of a run thinking it would be wide open, saw Strahan standing there and ducked down,” Favre said. “The game was over. There was no need for me to do anything spectacular. It probably wasn’t Michael’s best sack or tackle for loss.”

Favre went down, Strahan got the sack and set the NFL record, which was later tied by Pittsburgh’s T.J. Watt in 2021.

“In a different game or situation, I would have made a bigger effort to avoid the sack or TFL,” Favre said of the regular-season finale, won 34-25 by Green Bay. “But at no point was I thinking about hurting Gastineau. Maybe it crossed my mind to help Strahan. I didn’t think it through. That wasn’t my forte at the time.”

Gastineau, who was one of the league’s early sack kings and biggest personalities, is not in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

“I see now how being the Sack King would elevate his value at card

shows, strengthen his case for the Hall of Fame, increase his demand as a public speaker,” Favre wrote. “I had no way of knowing that then. I realize now the potential financial implications because football is far more business-oriented than when me or Mark played.

“There was no malice on my part.”

Favre added that he understands Gastineau’s frustration but said, “I’m not his enemy.” He bemoans that the incident was filmed and released to the public.

“It was a private moment of frustration between two old football warriors,” Favre said, adding that he has “a great deal of respect” for Gastineau and hopes he someday joins him in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

“Mark definitely left an indelible mark on the game,” Favre wrote. “I hope this controversy brings attention to just how great Mark Gastineau was. He belongs in Canton. Merry Christmas, everyone.”

BOWL

FROM PAGE B7

an unknown now with the expanded playoff, but we really feel like it’s going to continue.”

The current bowl format runs through 2025. What lies ahead is anyone’s guess. Could sponsors start paying athletes to play in bowl games? Could schools include hefty name, image and likeness incentives for players participating in bowls?

Would conferences be willing to dump bowl tie-ins to provide a wider

range of potential matchups? Are bowls ready to lean into more edginess like Pop-Tarts has done with its edible mascot?

The path forward will be determined primarily by revenue, title sponsors, TV demand and ticket sales.

“The one thing I have learned is we’re going to serve our partners,” Saccenti said. “We’re going to be a part of the system that’s there, and we’re going to try to remain flexible and make sure that we’re adjusting to what’s going on in the world of postseason college football.”

COACH

FROM PAGE B6

his first tenure in Chapel Hill before taking over at Texas or the Tar Heels cracking the top 10 of the AP Top 25 poll briefly in 2015 and 2020.

The peak of Brown’s second tenure came with a nine-win season and trip to the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game in 2022 behind eventual No. 3 overall NFL draft pick Drake Maye, who was coincidentally drafted by

the Patriots for their first post-Belichick year.


The school announced Nov. 26 that Brown wouldn’t return for a seventh season in his second stint in Chapel Hill, a firing that became effective after the program’s all-time wins leader coached his finale in the Nov. 30 loss to rival N.C. State.

Freddie Kitchens, himself a former Browns head coach, has been working as the interim coach as the Tar Heels prepare to face UConn in the Fenway Bowl on Dec. 28.

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